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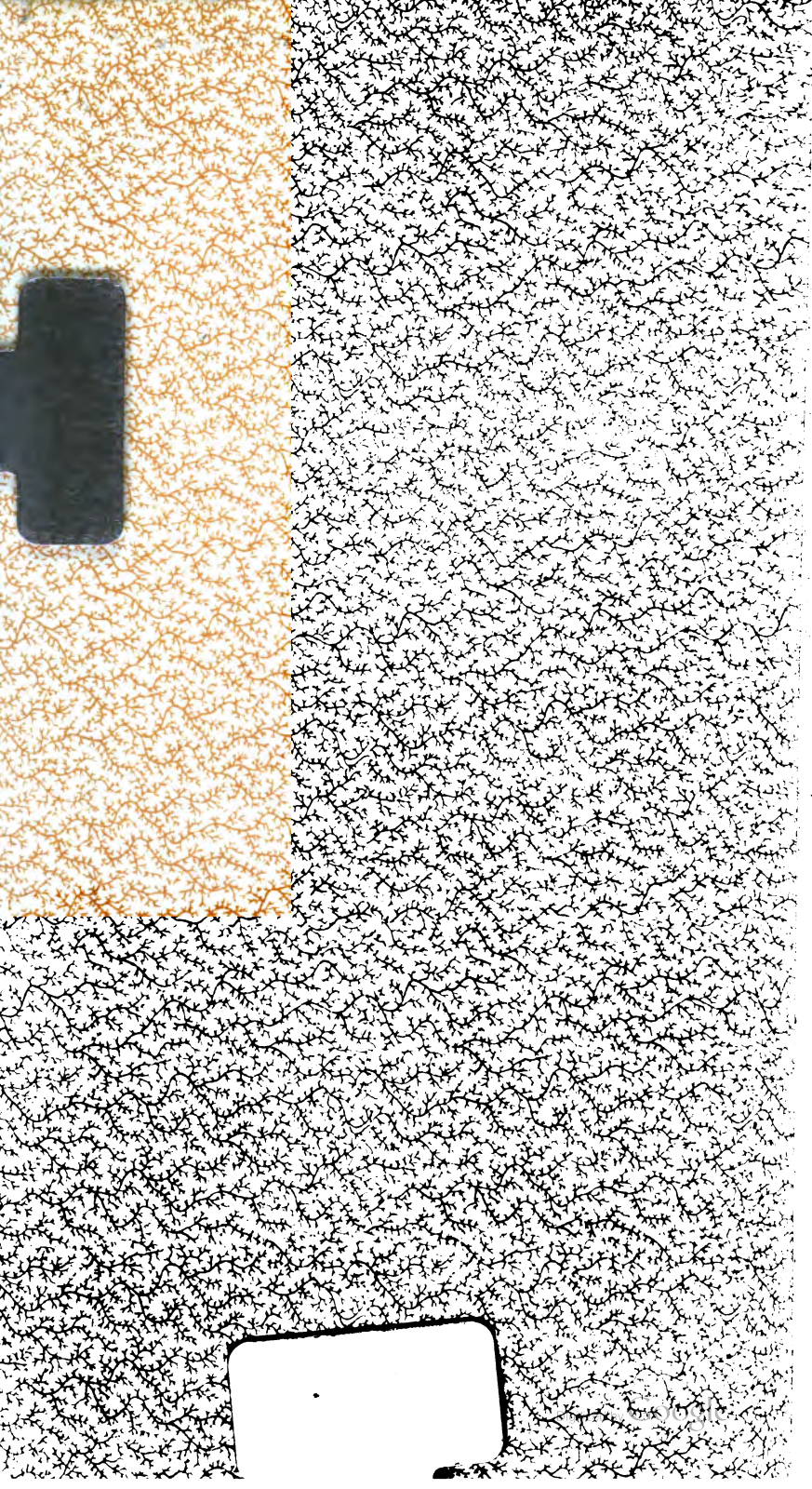
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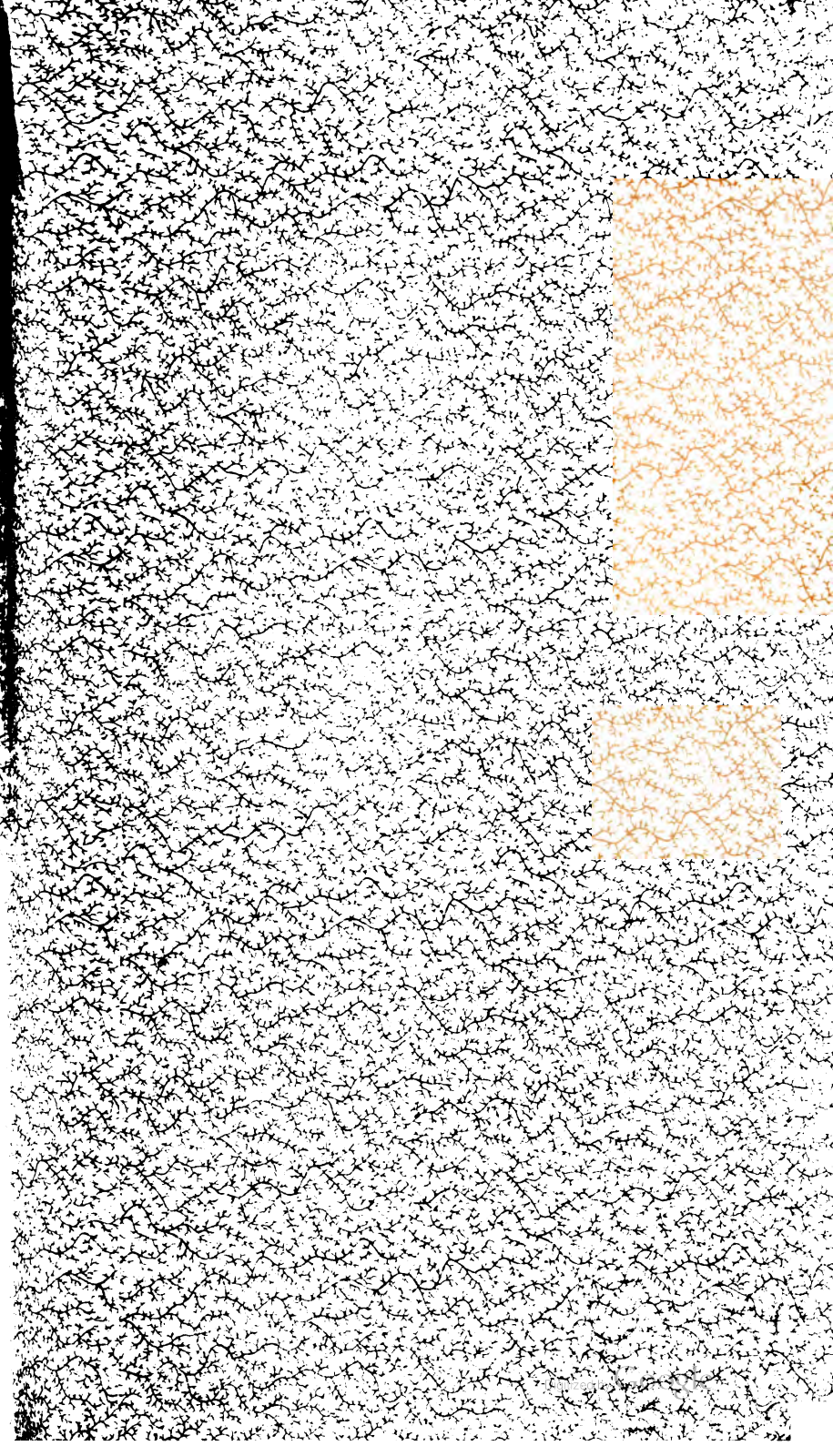
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HISTORY
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE

HISTORY

OF,

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SECOND EDITION.



LONDON:

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TO
HENRY ALEXANDER, ESQ.
&c. &c. &c.*
WHOSE
KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, TALENTS
AND COMPREHENSIVE MIND,
WHOSE IMPORTANT, ARDUOUS AND ZEALOUS
PUBLIC SERVICES,
AND
WHOSE VIRTUES
IN EVERY RELATION OF PRIVATE LIFE,
ENTITLE HIM
TO THE HIGHEST AND MOST UNQUALIFIED ESTEEM
OF HIS COUNTRY
AND OF THE WORLD,
THIS NARRATIVE,
COMPILED, IT IS FEARED, TOO HASTILY
FOR HIS CRITICAL INSPECTION,
IS INSCRIBED BY
THE AUTHOR.

* Now Colonial Secretary at the Cape of Good Hope.

PREFACE.

THE colony of New South Wales has, from the first, been considered with no small degree of interest, by the British public, and seems from several circumstances, entitled to that distinction.

The original project has something great in it. The immense distance of the settlement has indeed been attended with considerable immediate inconvenience and expense; but that distance forms its most striking feature in a political view. Its geographical situation, with respect both to China and India, offers advantages in prospect, above all calculation. These must, it is admitted, depend on our naval preponderance. The last twenty years, however, have set every doubt on that point, at rest.

INTRODUCTION.

THE vast island of New Holland lies between $10^{\circ} 37'$ and $43^{\circ} 39'$ south latitude, and $110^{\circ} 30'$, and $153^{\circ} 30'$ east longitude. It is nearly equal in extent to the whole of Europe. Its coast was first discovered by Don Pedro Fernando de Quiros, who, in the year 1609, presented several memorials to the Spanish court, in which he stated it as part of a great southern continent, and solicited the means of its conquest or settlement. He compared the probable extent of his discovery, to that of all Europe and the Lesser Asia taken together. Seven years afterwards, part of the western coast of this country was seen by the captain of a Dutch ship named The Endracht. This part has been denominated Land of Endracht. In 1618, a portion of the western coast, from the

11th to the 15th degree of latitude, was discovered by Zeachen. In 1619 John Van Edels gave his name to another part of it, about latitude 29°. In 1622 a Dutch captain observed the south-western point of what is now called Van Dieman's Land, about the 43rd degree of latitude; and five years afterwards, Peter Van Nuyts gave his name to a part of the south-western coast. In 1628, the Dutch commodore De Witt visited and gave his name to that part of the western coast, which lies between the tropic of Capricorn, and the 15th degree of latitude. In the same year a large gulph on the northern coast received the name of Carpentaria, from Peter Carpenter, a Dutchman, the discoverer of it. In 1629, Francis Pelsaert, a Dutch commodore, was wrecked upon the western coast, in latitude 28°. He had the good fortune to reach Batavia in his skiff, after having made some observations upon the productions and natives of the country. In 1642, Abel Jansen Tasman was employed

by the Dutch East India Company, to make a survey of certain parts of this coast. He reported a variety of particulars, respecting its productions, climate and inhabitants. Captain Dampier, an Englishman, visited it in the year 1688, and in 1699 was commissioned by King William, to examine it more particularly.

There is in the reports of all the early navigators, who have treated of this country, a great conformity, not only with each other, but with later information.

Captain Cook in the year 1770, discovered the eastern coast. That great navigator ascertained New Holland to be an island.

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THE
HISTORY
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES.

CHAPTER I.

*Project of a Colony—Expedition—Arrival in
New South Wales.*

IN the year 1786 it was deemed expedient by the British Government to take possession of a part of New Holland, for the purpose of planting a colony, and with a particular view to the transportation of convicts. There was on the eastern coast of that vast island, at about thirty-four degrees of south latitude, a capacious inlet, to which Captain Cook had, from the profusion of curious plants upon its borders, given the name of Botany Bay, and which he had spoken of as a place well calculated for a settlement. To this part of the coast, and for the purposes in question, an expedition was

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fitted out in the year above-mentioned, and the command of it, together with the government of the projected colony, given to Captain Arthur Phillip, an officer who had served with reputation in the Portuguese, as well as the British navy.

On the 24th of October, the captain hoisted a pendant on board his majesty's ship *Sirius*, of twenty guns, then lying at Deptford. The burden of this vessel was about five hundred and twenty tons, and she was, from her construction, well adapted to the particular service for which she was intended. As Captain Phillip had the general conduct of the expedition, and as, upon his arrival in the colony, his other occupations would oblige him to resign the command of the ship, it was thought necessary to appoint another experienced officer to her as second captain, and this situation was accordingly given to Captain John Hunter, with promotion from master and commander to the rank of post. It was also judged proper, although the *Sirius* mounted but twenty guns, and those only six-pounders, to appoint to her three lieutenants, a master, purser, surgeon, with two mates, a boatswain, gunner, and party of marines. She was to be accompanied by the Supply brig, as an armed tender, commanded by Lieutenant Ball. On the 7th of

May 1787, these two ships rendezvoused at Portsmouth with the following six transports, and three store-ships.

The *Alexander*, of four hundred and fifty-three tons; had on board one hundred and ninety-two male convicts; two lieutenants, two serjeants, two corporals, one drummer, and twenty-nine privates, with one assistant-surgeon to the colony.

The *Scarborough*, of four hundred and eighteen tons; had on board two hundred and five male convicts; one captain, two lieutenants, two serjeants, two corporals, one drummer, and twenty-six privates, with one assistant-surgeon.

The *Charlotte*, of three hundred and forty-six tons; eighty-nine male and twenty female convicts; one captain, two lieutenants, two serjeants, three corporals, one drummer, and thirty-five privates, with the principal surgeon of the colony.

The *Lady Penrhyn*, of three hundred and thirty-eight tons; one hundred and one female convicts; one captain, two lieutenants, and three privates, with a person acting as a surgeon's mate.

The *Prince of Wales*, of three hundred and thirty-four tons; two male and fifty female convicts; two lieutenants, three serjeants, two

corporals, one drummer, and twenty-four privates, with the surveyor-general of the colony.

The Friendship (snow), of two hundred and twenty-eight tons, seventy-six male and twenty-one female convicts; one captain, two lieutenants, two serjeants, three corporals, one drummer, and thirty-six privates, with one assistant-surgeon.

There were on board, beside these, twenty-eight women, eight male and six female children, belonging to the soldiers of the detachment, together with six male and seven female children belonging to the convicts.

The Fishbourn, store-ship, was of three hundred and seventy-eight tons; the Borrowdale of two hundred and seventy-two tons; and the Golden Grove of three hundred and thirty-one tons. On board this last ship was embarked the chaplain of the colony.

The men of war and transports, as well as the store-ships, were stowed as far as they would admit, with provisions, implements of agriculture, camp equipage, clothing, and every other article which was conceived to be necessary to an infant settlement. On board the Sirius, there embarked, Major Ross, the commandant of the corps of marines, who was also lieutenant-governor of the colony; the

adjutant and quarter-master; the judge-advocate of the settlement, and a commissary. The necessary day and night signals being established, for the regulation of the convoy, and proper instructions given to the masters to guard against separation, the signal was made on the 13th to weigh anchor. The Hyena frigate had orders to accompany the fleet to a certain distance clear of the channel, and then to return with an account of its state, and with any dispatches which it might be requisite for the governor to send home. On the 20th, when the whole had arrived in lat. $47^{\circ} 57'$, and lon. $12^{\circ} 14'$ west, the Hyena parted company upon her return. On the 24th, the fleet was in the latitude of Cape Ortegal, and on the 30th off Madeira. On the 3rd of June it came to an anchor in the road of Santa Cruz, at the island of Teneriffe. Early the next morning, Captain Phillip sent an officer to wait on the Marquis of Branceforte, the governor of this and the other Spanish islands in those seas, with the information usual on such occasions, respecting the fleet and its destination, and also to learn at what time he might pay his respects to his Excellency. The Spanish governor proposed an hour on the same day, and the captain, accompanied by the principal

civil, military, and naval officers under his orders, paid their ceremonial visit at the time appointed. Captain Phillip postponed till the following day the mention of the business, however urgent, of refreshments for the fleet. There was, however, nothing lost by this instance of scrupulous delicacy; for the marquis sent a message by a gentleman, the same afternoon, with offers of every supply and assistance which it was in his power to furnish. On the 6th, he came in person on board, attended by several of his officers, to return Captain Phillip's visit. On this occasion he remained about an hour, expressed much interest in the success of the expedition, and examined with attention some charts which were shewn him, that had reference to it.

The captain, and all other officers whose occupations permitted them to accept the invitation, were, in the course of their stay, splendidly entertained at the marquis's table. With regard to the supplies, not only the ships' companies and marines, but the entire number of convicts, were every day plentifully served with the best fresh provisions, although fruits and vegetables were at that time considered by the inhabitants as unusually scarce. All those British officers, whose narratives of the trans-

actions at this island have been preserved, have vied with each other in acknowledgments of their polite reception, and of the talents and agreeable qualities of the Marquis of Brancforte. "I never," says Captain Hunter, "met with so polite and so pleasant a man in any foreign port I have ever visited."

It was Captain Phillip's intention on his arrival, to make a stay of only three or four days; but although the watering of the ships, which was the principal object in view, was carried on with great diligence, and often continued after dusk, yet, from the inconvenience of the watering place, which admitted but of two boats being laden at a time, it was found impossible to be in complete readiness so soon as was at first expected. The religious observances of the place had also some, though no very considerable share, in retarding the preparations; as the British ships and military were careful to distinguish these occasions, by a marked cessation from public duties. On the 10th, the captain and officers took their leave of the hospitable governor, and the fleet set sail. The British ships did not salute at this port, that ceremony having been at their first arrival declined.

On the 18th, the fleet passed the Cape de

Verd islands. On the 14th of July, it crossed the equator, in longitude $26^{\circ} 10'$ west, with 5° of west variation. On the 2nd of August, the coast of South America was in sight. On the 6th, the fleet anchored at Rio Janeiro.

The viceroy of Brazil was at this time Don Luis de Vasconcellos. A serious difference which had formerly taken place between this nobleman and Captain Phillip, caused some uneasiness upon this occasion, to those who happened to be acquainted with the circumstance. It was apprehended that it might now have an influence to the disadvantage of the fleet. But this, as it soon appeared, was to do an injustice to Don Luis. Whatever might be the conduct pursued, or feelings manifested by Captain Phillip, upon any occasion of his life, those who knew him best always gave him credit for his motives. The generous viceroy had probably felt this distinction, and was lavish in tokens of esteem for his adversary. On the first information of his arrival, he gave orders to the garrison, that the same honours should be paid to him as to himself; a distinction which the captain modestly wished to decline, but was not permitted. His reception at the viceregal court was flattering to him and honourable to the British nation. All

the officers were received with the politest attention, and had the unusual indulgence extended to them, of being permitted to visit every part of the city of St. Sebastian, and the adjacent country; a compliment which will appear extraordinary to those who are acquainted with the jealousy entertained towards strangers in the Spanish and Portuguese settlements. The established entrance-fees, which were very high, were remitted, as soon as it was understood that the stores belonged to his Britannic Majesty. The port-captain gave every assistance to the ships, on their coming into, and afterwards mooring in, the harbour. The usual precaution against contraband traffic, of placing a guard in whatever boat came ashore, was not insisted on. Permission was received for the erection of an observatory, at the Isle of Enchidos, two miles up the harbour, for the purpose of ascertaining the rate of the time-keeper. The fleet was supplied with many useful articles from the royal stores; the purchase of provisions or other commodities, was effectually regulated by the government, so as to prevent imposition. It would be difficult to specify all the instances of attention by which the stay of the fleet was rendered agreeable in this harbour.

The birth-day of his royal highness the Prince of Brazil occurred on the 21st. The British were careful, on this occasion, to omit nothing which might be considered as expressive of their respect for him and attachment to the nation. They fired a royal salute, beginning only two shots later than the Portuguese guns; the *Sirius* displayed the Portuguese flag at her fore-top-mast-head; and Captain Philip, with all the principal officers, went on shore to pay their compliments to the viceroy in honour of the day. Except upon this occasion, there reigned at this time in the settlement, a remarkable degree of gloom and melancholy, which had continued from the time of the king's death. The play, the opera-house, and all places of public amusement were shut, and the viceroy indulged himself only in a private concert once a week.

It was necessary, at length, to quit this friendly region. The stay of the fleet had lasted nearly a month, which space had been employed in a variety of useful preparations. Amongst other objects, particular attention had been given to the laying in of all those productions which it was thought might be cultivated with advantage in the intended colony; such as the coffee-plant, the cocoa, the

banana, the orange, the lime, the shaddock, the tamarind, the guava, the lemon, the pommerose, the Indian fig, with the cochineal insects upon it, together with a variety of medicinal plants. The whole fleet had been greatly refreshed by the plentiful supply of fresh meat, vegetables, and fruits. The vast profusion of oranges and bananas was thought to have a sensible effect on the health of the convicts, whose unhappy situation necessarily rendered them most liable to the diseases incident to long voyages. After a grateful leave taken of the viceroy, the signal was made on the 3rd of September, from the Sirius, for all persons to repair on board their respective ships. The next morning the fleet weighed anchor. In passing fort Santa Cruz, the Sirius received and returned a salute of twenty-one guns.

During the voyage from Rio Janeiro to the Cape of Good Hope, the weather was extremely variable. The fleet, however, arrived at that port on the 13th of October, having crossed from the continent of America to that of Africa, a distance of upwards of eleven hundred leagues, in the space of only five weeks and four days, without either separation or accident. Its reception here, as at the other ports at which it had touched, was

highly amicable. A scarcity, approaching nearly to famine, had lately, for the first time, prevailed in this colony ; which was not even yet completely delivered from the pressure of so dreadful a calamity. The supplying the fleet with the grain and flour still wanting to make up the quantity required for the settlement in New South Wales, became therefore a matter of very serious scruple with the Dutch governor and council. A disappointment, on the other hand, as to this object, would have been as distressing as it was unexpected, to the expedition ; the Cape being the last resource which the *known* world could afford for such a supply. After a deliberation, however, which lasted till the 23rd, Captain Phillip's solicitation was complied with to the full extent. Permission was also given to purchase the necessary live stock, and a great variety was procured of plants and seeds, both of fruits and garden vegetables. The gardens of the Cape are celebrated as containing the produce of every climate. The sugar-cane, the vine in great variety, the fig, the peach, the quince, the apple, the pear, the strawberry, the myrtle, the bamboo, the Spanish reed, together with rice, Indian corn, and a number of other articles too tedious to enumerate, were carefully laid

up for the use of the colony, agreeably to the most judicious directions that could be procured for their preservation.

A Swiss soldier of the regiment of Meuron, which was on service there, swam off from the shore, and came on board one of the transports, requesting to be permitted to proceed in her to New South Wales. To assent to this man's proposition was evidently a thing impossible, and Captain Phillip accordingly sent him ashore; but his humanity induced him to solicit, and he succeeded in obtaining for him, a pardon from his regiment. The fleet sailed on the 13th of November.

After its departure, the weather continued very unfavourable for several days. The convoy got slowly and laboriously eastward of the Cape. On the 16th, Captain Phillip signified his intention of preceding the principal part of the fleet, with a view to make the necessary preparations for the disembarkation in New South Wales. This separation did not take place till the 25th, in lat. $38^{\circ} 40'$ south, lon. $20^{\circ} 05'$ east, when he embarked on board the Supply, taking with him, from the Sirius, several officers, some carpenters, sawyers, blacksmiths, and other artificers, as also the time-keeper. He at the same time gave orders

to three of the best sailing transports, under the command of Lieutenant Shortland, to quit the convoy, and make the best of their way to join him at Botany Bay. In these were embarked the lieutenant-governor, with the adjutant and quarter-master of the marines. The remainder of the fleet was commanded by Captain Hunter. This able officer was under the disadvantage of having with him several very heavy sailing ships, and no better time-keeper than his watch. He seems to have conducted his charge with equal prudence and talent. The day after parting company, the Supply was still in sight from the mast head, and the three transports were discerned about seven or eight miles off; but the wind having shifted to the south-east in the night of the 27th, the fleet stood to the southward, and from that time lost sight of them. It was Captain Hunter's opinion, that it had till then kept in too northerly a parallel to ensure strong and lasting westerly winds; which determined him, as soon as Captain Phillip had separated, to steer to the southward, and keep a higher latitude. The weather continued very unfavourable till the 29th, when the wind came round to the west and became much more steady. The accuracy of the watch seemed sufficiently

confirmed by frequent lunar observations: On the 1st of December the longitude by account, was $36^{\circ} 42'$ east, by the watch $36^{\circ} 48'$;—lat. $40^{\circ} 05'$ south; variation of the compass, $29^{\circ} 40'$ west. Towards the end of December and beginning of January, he experienced frequent and violent squalls and hazy weather; the convoy in general were brought under a reefed fore-top-sail, and the Sirius carried her three storm stay-sails, that the transports might not find it necessary to attempt carrying more sail than was consistent with their safety. Whenever there was an appearance of thick weather, they observed as close an order as possible. The sea was high and irregular, and broke with great violence on some of the ships. The roll and labouring of these vessels proved very inconvenient with respect to the cattle. In the course of this passage, whales of a large size were seen; few birds; a quantity of seaweed, supposed to have drifted from the island of St. Paul. On the 4th of January, some good observations of the longitude were taken. The result, which gave $135^{\circ} 30'$ east, was marked with chalk, in large characters, on a black painted board, and shewn over the stern to the convoy. The fleet was now thought to be not far from the coast of Van Dieman's Land. On

the 6th, in the evening, as the captain intended running in for the land all night, he made the signal for the convoy to close, and drop into the Sirius's wake. On the 7th and 8th, there was a bright Aurora Australis, of a beautiful crimson colour, streaked with orange, yellow, and white, with a constant play and interchange of those colours. The fleet next day passed near the South Cape, which terminated in a low, rocky point. Beyond this, to the eastward, it passed the point of land called Tasman's Head. On the 10th, it experienced some violent squalls, with lightning, thunder, and rain. These came on so suddenly as to surprise the convoy with too much sail out, and occasion some damage and delay. On the 15th, by a lunar observation, the longitude was found to be $152^{\circ} 43'$ east. On the 19th, at noon, the fleet was abreast of Redpoint, in lat. $34^{\circ} 29'$, at the distance of only ten leagues from Botany Bay. The captain made sail ahead, in order, if possible, to get sight of its entrance before night. As soon as he had brought it to bear north-north-west, he lay to, and made the signal for the convoy to pass in succession under his ship's stern, when they were informed of the bearing of the harbour, as also its distance, which was seven or eight

miles, and that it was the captain's intention to work off under an easy sail till day-light. The next morning, being fair, with a south-east wind, he led into the bay. The Supply and the three transports were discovered at anchor.

Thus arrived, in safety and health, at a part of the globe which was nearly the antipodes of the point from which it set out, a fleet of eleven sail, after a voyage of eight months. The entire number of deaths had been but thirty-two, and some of these had been accidental.



CHAPTER II.

Botany Bay—Natives.

THE governor had reached his destination but forty hours, and the three transports but twenty hours, before the rest of the fleet. He had employed himself, from his first landing, in examining how far the bay was adapted to the intended purpose of a colony; but his researches had ended for the most part in disappointment. Its extent is very great, but it is in general without much depth of water, and is exposed to the south-east winds, which often cause a heavy and dangerous swell. At the distance of less than three miles from its mouth, there is a bar, which at low water is not more than fifteen feet deep. The streams of fresh water upon its shores are scanty, and in many places impure, with the appearance of having boozed through marshes. There was, indeed, that variety of plants which had been so captivating to the taste of the party that accompanied Captain Cook, and which suggested the name assigned to the bay; but the good soil was only in patches, and the place upon the


whole so unpromising, that a general gloom prevailed over the minds of the more thinking part of those who belonged to the expedition. It soon occurred to the governor, that it would be expedient to seek for another situation, and he resolved upon the immediate execution of that measure ; but, as it was not certain that a more eligible one could be found, he thought it prudent not entirely to suspend his preparations, but still to act in some sort as if this were to be the site of the settlement. He therefore fixed upon a part of the southern shore, named Point Sutherland, as the best situation that could be found, and gave orders that the clearing of the ground should be commenced, but forbid the principal disembarkation. Lieutenant King had orders also to view the bay during his absence with greater accuracy than time had hitherto permitted.

The shores of this country are inhabited by a savage race, who have no fixed residence, and subsist chiefly by hunting and fishing, but particularly the latter. They are entirely naked. Though not of the negro kind, their complexion is of a sooty black. They are armed with a lance, and make use of canoes, in which there is usually a fire. They take refuge from the inclemencies of the weather, sometimes in

the caves of the rocks, and sometimes in temporary huts covered with bark. Their population is proportioned to the scantiness of their subsistence. The governor had, during the few days that had elapsed since his arrival, several opportunities of observing their temper. In general they had not appeared decidedly unfriendly; but even their acts of kindness were accompanied by marks of suspicion and alarm. When signs were made to them from a boat, that the object sought was water, they pointed to the situation of a spring, and after conducting the crew to it, behaved at the spot peaceably. An old man, of a very ferocious countenance, seemed pleased with the looks of an European child, but after examining it with apparent tenderness, he pronounced vehemently the word *uhurra*, signifying in their language *begone*.

These mixed emotions are not confined to the savage. Man in every state confesses their influence. In the most polished nations, they perplex the question of peace or war. The savage has his notions, however rude, of property and occupancy; or he may be alarmed at the appearance or neighbourhood of powerful strangers. Interest and hope and curiosity, may again pull him in a contrary direction.

It will occur to every generous mind, that these less favoured mortals, to whom fortune has been such a step-mother, have undeniable claims to indulgence from those who possess the boundless advantages over them derived from civilization.



CHAPTER III.

Port Jackson.

ON the 21st of January, in pursuance of his plan, the governor proceeded to explore the neighbouring coasts, and particularly the inlet, about eighteen miles northward, which Captain Cook had named Broken Bay. He was accompanied by Captain Hunter, Captain Collins (judge-advocate), and the master of the *Sirius*, with a small party of marines, the whole being embarked in three open boats. The day was mild and serene. Parties of natives on shore seemed to accompany their progress, vociferating the words *whurra, whurra, whurra*, words which we have already observed to be of no friendly import.

There was a part of the coast which Captain Cook had viewed from a distance of between two and three miles, and which, as it had to him the appearance of an open bay, he had not thought worthy of particular examination. It was distant from Botany Bay about three leagues and a half. He had named it Port Jackson. This, as it lay in the route to Broken

Bay, the governor thought proper to look into, before he proceeded further. It was now found to be, in reality, the mouth of a channel which stretched in a south-west direction, but which, from the turn of the coast, and the height of the outer capes or heads, had not before been distinguished. Pursuing this channel for about three miles, the party were agreeably surprised, by its sudden turn to the west, to find it lead to a further inlet of great extent. The more they followed up their unexpected discovery, the more they had reason to be satisfied. This noble and completely land-locked harbour is about fourteen miles in length, and of the most irregular form. Its soundings are of a depth much more than sufficient for the largest ships. All the navies in the world might ride in safety in it. Its branches are very extensive. In these, as well as in the main body of its waters, are innumerable coves and creeks, whose rocky margins are shaded with the finest timber, and many of which form of themselves capacious harbours. Within these again are frequently found others, embosomed in woods, and of considerable depth and size. The tufted islands, which adorn without encumbering it, give to the

whole a picturesque effect, only to be equalled by the ideas it presents of safety and convenience. Such was this magnificent port, now for the first time beheld by the eye of civilized man. The governor required no persuasion to seek upon its shores a situation for the projected settlement, and, with this view, he, Captain Hunter, and another officer, by separating in different boats, and proceeding in several directions, gave them the most diligent examination that the urgency of the case permitted. The result was his choice of an inlet on the south side, at about five miles and a half from the main entrance; to this he gave the name of Sydney Cove. It was about half a mile in length and a quarter in breadth. Its soundings were about seven fathom towards the middle of the channel and four near the shore; so that, at a small expense, it might be made to admit vessels of great burden quite up to its banks: nor were there, in any part of it, rocks or shallows. At the upper end it receives a considerable stream of fresh water.

In exploring Port Jackson, further particulars occurred with respect to the manners and character of the natives. Upon the first landing of the boats, a party of them, armed

with lances, stood at a short distance, and seemed in vociferous debate amongst themselves. Signs of amity, however, such as are in some degree understood by all savages, seemed to appease them; and one of them, supposed to be a chief, advanced singly. On being accosted by the governor, who offered to lead him to a greater distance from the others, he at first complied, with apparent confidence, but soon stopped and made his conductor understand, by very intelligible signs, that he must expect severe revenge if any advantage was taken of his situation. The governor, notwithstanding the rigorous condition, led him to the different objects which might be most supposed to excite his curiosity. In pointing out, amongst other things, a sight to him so novel, as that of a pot boiling for dinner, he succeeded, to all appearance, in making him comprehend the utility of that process, and in even recommending it to his adoption by means of some of the enormous shells found upon this coast. European foods, and refreshments of every kind, seemed at first to be accepted by the natives of this country, from curiosity rather than appetite. Of eatables, they relished biscuit and bread the

least, and they expressed an aversion to fermented liquors. The meeting in question terminated by further signs of amity, and some presents from the governor.

In another part of the harbour, about twenty of them waded into the water and examined the construction of the boats, with a degree of minuteness, which impressed a higher notion of their habits of observation than had been conceived on any former occasion. The governor was so pleased with their confidence and manly behaviour, that he presented them with several useful articles, and gave to the place the name of Manly Cove. They afterwards came to the spot where the boats landed. They were now armed, two of them with shields and swords made of a hard wood, and the rest with lances. A few of them had white clay rubbed upon the upper part of the face. Preparations were this day, as on the former occasion, making for dinner. Their curiosity now rendered them a little troublesome, and gave rise to an arrangement which they were observed to submit to with great order and cheerfulness. It consisted merely in marking a line round the spot that was occupied, and making them understand that they were

requested not to come within it. Their demeanour in general would have done credit to a more artificial state of life.

On the 24th, the object of the expedition having been so successfully fulfilled, the party hastened to relieve the general anxiety and returned to Botany Bay.

CHAPTER IV.

Removal to Sydney Cove.

ON the governor's return, the successful result of his expedition was announced to the fleet, and every preparation made for an immediate removal. Next morning, amidst the bustle attendant upon such a moment, and when our adventurers thought themselves in a state of total seclusion from the rest of the world, a coincidence, very unexpected, occurred. Two strange ships, of considerable size and force, appeared in the offing. The astonishment was general.—“I had risen,” says Mr. Tench*, “at the dawn of day; judge of my surprise on “hearing from a serjeant, who ran down “almost breathless to the cabin where I was “dressing, that a ship was seen off the harbour’s mouth. At first I only laughed; but “knowing the man who spoke to me to be of “great veracity, and hearing him repeat his “information, I flew upon deck, on which I

* Lieutenant of marines.

“ had barely set my foot, when the cry of
“ *another sail* struck on my astonished ear.
“ Confounded by a thousand ideas which arose
“ in my mind in an instant, I sprang upon the
“ barricado, and plainly descried two ships of
“ considerable size standing in for the mouth
“ of the bay. By this time the alarm had
“ become general, and every one appeared lost
“ in conjecture.”

The conjectures formed upon the extraordinary appearance of these ships were various. Some imagined them to be Dutch ships of war come to dispossess the English settlers ; some supposed them to be upon a voyage of discovery ; some thought them storeships from England, with supplies. Before doubt could be dispelled, and the general curiosity gratified, the apparition completely vanished. The ships, whatever they might have been, were prevented by an adverse wind and strong current, from working into the harbour, and were at last carried entirely off the coast. The governor, from the first, participated but little in the general perplexity. He had scarcely a doubt that they were ships, which were known to have been sent by the king of France for purposes of discovery in the South Seas ; and so confident was he in his conjecture, that

he thought it unnecessary to delay, for a moment, the intended measures of removal. He accordingly sailed for Port Jackson in the *Supply*, with a party of marines and a number of artificers, leaving directions with Captain Hunter to follow as soon as possible with the convoy. The *Supply* was scarcely out of sight, when the two strange ships re-appeared. They were now perceived to be under French colours, and a south-east breeze springing up, they soon after anchored in the bay. They proved to be the *Boussole* and *Astrolabe* French frigates, which had sailed from Brest in June 1785, on a voyage of discovery, and were commanded by Monsieur de La Perouse. Captain Hunter had but barely time, in passing them, to exchange civilities, as he was then working out of the bay. He anchored the same evening with the convoy in Port Jackson.

The principal disembarkation took place on the following day at Sydney Cove. A savage wilderness, which from the beginning of the world had never heard the stroke of an axe, now resounded with all the bustle of art and civilized life. The new inhabitants literally leaped from their boats into a forest. As fast as the ground could be cleared, tents were pitched and huts constructed. "Here," to use

the words of Mr. Tench, "you might see
" one party felling timber, a second setting up
" a blacksmith's forge, a third dragging along
" a load of stores or provisions; here an
" officer pitching his marquee, with a detach-
" ment of troops on one side, and a cook's fire
" blazing up on the other. Through the
" unwearied diligence, however," continues he,
" of those at the head of the different depart-
" ments regularity was soon introduced, and
" as far as the unsettled state of matters would
" allow, confusion gave place to system."

Fortunately the trees were not so uniformly close but that many openings presented themselves, which it would have been very tedious to have cleared, had the ground been entirely overgrown. The place could, with most aptitude, according to Captain Hunter's journal, be compared to the more woody parts of a gentleman's deer-park in England. A portable canvass house, the frame-work and other parts of which had been brought from England for the immediate accommodation of the governor, was now erected on the east side of the cove. The marines were stationed at the extremity next the stream. The convicts were chiefly placed on the western side. The women did not disembark for some days; when

every person belonging to the settlement being landed, the numbers were found to amount to one thousand and thirty. The cattle were landed at the east point of the cove, where they had the benefit of pasturage till they could be removed to some ground which was to be cleared for a farm, under the direction of a skilful person brought out by the governor. Another part, adjoining the governor's residence, was prepared with the utmost expedition for a garden. The various plants which had been brought from Rio Janeiro and the Cape of Good Hope, were found to be in good condition, and the fruits of almost every climate were committed to their new soil; nor was less attention paid to the still more useful catalogue of kitchen vegetables.—To give a complete detail of all the occupations and exertions which took place at this time, would be impossible. There existed, for every one, the strongest inducement to industry; for it evidently required great efforts to save all concerned from perishing in a desert.

It is remarkable, that that terrible disease, the sea-scurvy, which had not appeared during the voyage, now broke out, and continued for some time to affect the settlement. Fortunately, the place was not without wild celery and

other esculent plants which are known to be efficacious in that malady. The dysentery also made its appearance, and that with considerable violence; but for this a powerful remedy was discovered on the spot, being a red gum, exuded from a large tree which grows on many parts of these coasts. It is remarkable, also, that for this disease another medicine, but of less efficacy, consisting of a yellow gum, was also found here. This substance is the produce of a low plant which throws out long grassy leaves on every side, and shoots up from its centre a stem of about fourteen feet in height, with a head resembling in form, an ear of Indian corn. Of this stem the natives frequently make their spears or lances. The gum is not extracted from the plant itself, but found deposited at its root.

CHAPTER V.

The King's Commission read—Courts of Justice established.

It was not till the 7th of February that a sufficient interval of relaxation from necessary labour occurred, for the public reading of His Majesty's commission for the government of the territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies. In this instrument it was stated to extend from the northern cape or extremity of the coast, called Cape York, in the latitude of $10^{\circ} 37'$ south, to the southern extremity or South Cape in the latitude of $43^{\circ} 39'$, including all adjacent islands within those latitudes; and inland to the westward, as far as the 135th degree of east longitude. Letters-patent were also read for the establishment of courts of civil and criminal judicature in the territory. His Majesty, by the 27th Geo. III. cap. 56, had power to authorise, by his commission under the great seal, the governor, or, in his absence, the lieutenant-governor, to convene, as occasion might require, a court of criminal jurisdiction, which was to be a court of record, and to

consist of the judge-advocate and such six officers of the sea or land service as the governor should nominate by precept issued under his hand and seal. This court was empowered to inquire into, and punish, all crimes of whatever nature; the punishments to be inflicted according to the laws of England, as nearly as might be, considering and allowing for the circumstances and situation of the settlement and its inhabitants; the charge against the arraigned person to be reduced to writing; witnesses to be examined upon oath; the court, whether in capital or other cases, to be determined by the opinion of the majority; but the punishment of death not to be inflicted until the King's pleasure should be known, except in cases where there was a concurrence of five members of the court; the provost-marshal to cause the judgment to be executed under the governor's warrant.

The constitution of this court had a striking resemblance to that of the military courts. It was to assemble, not at stated times, but occasionally: it was composed of military officers (the judge-advocate excepted), who were to assemble as such, in military habit, with the usual insignia of duty, the sash and the sword: the examination of witnesses was to be carried

on by the members of the court, as well as by the judge-advocate. It was, however, in other respects different from those courts: the judge-advocate was the judge or president; he was to frame and exhibit the charge against the prisoner; to have a vote in the court, and to be sworn like the members of it, well and truly to try the cause, and give a verdict according to evidence. Besides this court for the trial of criminal offenders, a civil court was established, consisting of the judge-advocate and two inhabitants of the settlement, who were to be appointed by the governor; which court was empowered to hear and determine, in a summary way, all pleas of lands, houses, debts, contracts, and all personal pleas whatsoever, with authority to summon the parties upon complaint being made, to examine the matter of such complaint by the oaths of witnesses, and to issue warrants of execution under the hand and seal of the judge-advocate. From this court an appeal might be made to the governor, and from him (where the property in dispute exceeded the value of three hundred pounds) to the King in council: but such appeal must be put in, if from the civil court, within eight days, and if from the governor or superior court, within fourteen days after the

judgment pronounced. To this court was likewise given authority to grant probates of wills, and administration of the personal estates of intestate persons dying within the settlement. A vice-admiralty court was also established for the trial of offences committed upon the high seas. The governor had, besides that of captain-general, a commission constituting him vice-admiral of the territory, and another vesting him with authority to hold general courts-martial, and to confirm or set aside the sentence. The commandant of the detachment had the usual power of assembling regimental courts-martial.

CHAPTER VI.

Norfolk Island.

THE governor's instructions contained His Majesty's commands for taking possession of an uninhabited island which had been discovered by Captain Cook, and named by him, Norfolk Island. It was situated in lat. 29° south, and lon. $168^{\circ} 10'$ east. Besides the usual objects of a colony, that which was more particularly proposed in the possession of this island, was the cultivation of a species of flax of extraordinary excellence, which it had been reported by Captain Cook to produce spontaneously in great abundance. He had first noticed this plant in New Zealand, and in his account of that country, he reports it to answer all the purposes of hemp and flax, in a very superior degree. "It is," says he, "of two
" sorts; the leaves of both resemble those of
" flax, but the flowers are smaller and their
" clusters more numerous: in one kind they
" are yellow, in the other a deep red. Of the
" leaves of these plants, with very little prepa-
" ration, the natives make all their common

“ apparel, and of these they also make their
“ strings, lines, and cordage, for every purpose,
“ which are so much stronger than any thing
“ we can make with hemp, that they will not
“ bear a comparison. From the same plant,
“ by another preparation, they draw long
“ slender fibres that shine like silk, and are as
“ white as snow: of these, which are also
“ surprisingly strong, the finer cloths are made;
“ and of the leaves, without any other prepa-
“ ration than splitting them into proper
“ breadths, and tying the strips together, they
“ make their fishing nets, some of which are
“ of an enormous size.”

The command of an expedition for the above purpose, together with the office of commandant of the island, was given to Lieutenant King of the *Sirius*. The detachment under him consisted of one subaltern officer and six marines, a midshipman and surgeon, besides two men who understood the cultivation and dressing of flax, with nine men and six women convicts. He sailed in the *Supply* on the 14th.

Early in this month Captain Hunter was dispatched with a six-oared boat and another smaller one to examine more accurately than time had before permitted, the shores of Port

Jackson. In this examination he had the satisfaction to find that noble harbour answer the most favourable ideas conceived of it. The soil around it was indeed not uniformly good, but many parts, if cleared of timber, were very fit for cultivation, particularly towards the upper end. In his progress, he met with the natives, in bodies rather more numerous than in the first survey.

A violent storm of thunder and rain did some damage about this time at the settlement. The lightning struck a tree under which a shed had been erected for some sheep, five of which were unluckily destroyed by it.

The public works at Sydney (such was the name of the encampment and projected town) proceeded with alacrity. Amongst these, the most urgent was one for the preservation of the stores. This was accordingly executed in a rough manner so as to answer its immediate purpose. An hospital was put in hand soon after. This building was to be eighty-four feet by twenty-three, and covered with shingles made of a kind of wood particularly well adapted to that use. It was divided into a dispensary, a ward for the troops, and another for the convicts. Barracks were also begun, and carried on with as much expedition as circum-

stances would admit. They were to consist of four buildings; each building to be sixty-seven feet by twenty-two; the whole to contain four companies. They were placed at convenient distances for the sake of air and cleanliness, with a space in the centre for a parade. An observatory was begun upon the western point of the cove. A variety of instruments had been supplied by the Board of Longitude, which, with other objects, proposed in a more particular manner, the observation of the comet that was this year to appear. The latitude of this observatory was $33^{\circ} 52' 30''$ south; the longitude from Greenwich $151^{\circ} 19' 30''$ east.

A sort of pine was found which was very serviceable for the frame-work of buildings. This tree, however, was not in sufficient abundance for the immediate necessities of the settlement; and the other sorts of timber in the neighbourhood were, in general, too hard for common purposes. The necessity also of using all wood in an unseasoned state proved a great disadvantage. The number, besides, of professed carpenters was insufficient for the extent of the works carrying on; the ships furnishing but sixteen, and the convicts but twelve.

Early in the month of March the governor

set out on an excursion to Broken Bay. We have stated this inlet to be eighteen miles north of Botany Bay; but this must be understood in a direct line. Its distance coastwise is ten leagues; consequently about six and a half from Port Jackson. It had been described by Captain Cook as large and irregular. Such, indeed, it now proved. From the imperfect examination which, in so short a space of time, the governor was enabled to give it, (his entire absence from Sydney was but eight days,) its probable extent appeared to be fully equal to that of Port Jackson, but its shores present much fewer situations capable of cultivation. Nor were there, as at Port Jackson, scenes uniting grandeur with beauty. Abrupt precipices, desolate rocks, and a frowning wilderness, inspired nothing but terror and melancholy. In exploring some of its branches, the party, from the rainy weather, and the not having provided all the necessaries for such an excursion, suffered much inconvenience and hardship.

It was with much regret that the gentlemen attached to the English expedition had been compelled, by their occupations, to have less intercourse with the French ships than they wished. They, however, had sufficient to

convince them that the officers were men of ability, observation, and diligence. They had now been a considerable time in Botany Bay. Amongst other works, during their stay, they constructed two large boats which they had brought in pieces from France : these were to replace two which they had lost on the north-west coast of America.

In the course of a walk which some of them took with Captain Hunter, they pointed out to him a small mount upon the north shore of the bay, consisting of very perfect basaltic columns.

M. de Clonard, the captain of the *Astrolabe*, in an excursion, he made from the ships, brought round some dispatches from M. de La Perouse, which that officer requested the governor to forward to the French ambassador at the court of London. On the 10th of March they left the coast of New South Wales.

Soon after their departure, the grave of the Abbé L. Receveur, who died a few weeks before they sailed, was discovered. He was buried not far from the spot where their tents had been erected, at the foot of a tree, on which were nailed two pieces of board with the following inscription :

HIC JACET
L. RECEVEUR
EX F. F. MINORIBUS
GALLIÆ SACERDOS
PHYSICUS IN CIRCUMNAVIGATIONE MUNDI
DUCE D. DE LA PEROUSE
OBIIT DIE 17 FEBR. ANNO
1788.

Governor Phillip, on hearing soon after that the boards had fallen down, caused the inscription to be engraven on a plate of copper, which was put up in place of them ; but rain, and the oozing of gum from the tree, soon rendered it illegible.

Several transports, chartered for China, were now clearing. The ordnance, consisting of two brass six-pounders, four iron twelve-pounders, and two iron six-pounders, were landed. A wharf, for the convenience of landing stores, was begun under the direction of the surveyor-general. The boats belonging to the ships in the cove, were employed in bringing up cabbage-trees from the lower part of the main harbour, where they grew in great abundance. Their tops are highly esteemed as an esculent vegetable, and the wood was

found well adapted to the erection of huts. The roofs of these were thatched with the leaves of the gum plant. A party of convicts was employed in making bricks, under the direction of a person who understood that business, at a spot about a mile from the settlement, at the head of Long Cove. A site was fixed upon for the future residence of the governor, upon an eminence from which there was a beautiful view of the main harbour. The first step, however, to this undertaking, was yet to be effected, that of clearing the ground. The main street also was marked out. Although the intended town was still nearly a wilderness, yet an attention to future convenience was not neglected, and something of regularity was attempted in the distribution of its parts.

CHAPTER VII.

The Blue Mountains—Governor's Excursion.

ON the 19th of March, the Supply, after an absence of a month and six days, returned, under the command of Lieutenant Ball, from Norfolk Island, with letters from Mr. King. She had reached that island on the 29th, but had not landed her people till the 6th of March, and on the 8th she set sail on her return to Port Jackson. It could not be expected that in so short a space of time, any very detailed information respecting it could be given. It appeared, however, from the report received, that the soil was excellent; that the island was almost wholly covered with trees, and a thick underwood; that the pines growing there were of an enormous height; that for five successive days a landing had been prevented by a surf, which was found to break with violence on a reef of rocks that lay across the principal bay. Lieutenant King had named this bay, Sydney Bay, and had given the names of Phillip and Nepean to two small islands situ-

ated near it. At the time this ship left the island, he had not yet seen the flax plant.

To the above information it may not be improper here to add the following particulars:—Norfolk Island is about six miles in length, and four in breadth, and contains about fourteen thousand acres. It is much varied by hill and valley. There is a high hill in the centre, the haunt of innumerable sea-fowl. The island is well watered; the climate is salubrious, and for the most part of a delightful temperature, being generally preserved from excessive heat by the sea breezes. Rain is not unfrequent from February to August, and falls in sudden torrents. There is a perpetual verdure, but that verdure is of trees and shrubs. There is no grass upon the island, but many flowers. Upon the leaves of these various plants, however, sheep, hogs, goats, and cattle, thrive exceedingly. The winter, which may be said to commence in May and end in August, is very pleasant. There is no frost, and cold is but seldom felt. Besides the pines already mentioned, it produces several other species of forest trees, and the underwood is in general so thick and so bound together by that kind of creeping shrub called supple-jack, interwoven in all directions, as to be absolutely impenetrable. Amongst other productions,

are found a kind of pepper, the cabbage-palm, the banana, and the fern tree, the bark of which may be manufactured into rope and twine. The flax plant grows chiefly along the coasts. The leaves of this plant, when full-grown, are from six to eight feet long, and six inches broad towards the bottom; each plant contains seven leaves, with a woody stalk which rises from the centre and bears the flowers. The richness of the soil and the extent and density of the woods, cause the island to be much infested by various insects, caterpillars, and worms. The coasts abound with fish, but are so dangerous as often to render fishing impracticable. Very fine turtle are sometimes taken upon the shores.

In the direction of the coast of New South Wales, and distant from the sea from forty to sixty miles, there is a range of mountains which has received the appellation of the Blue Mountains. The nature and practicability of this barrier to the interior of New Holland, must necessarily have soon become an interesting object of inquiry to any people settling upon the coast, from most parts of which it is very visible. As at the beginning of the former month, the governor had undertaken an expedition to Broken Bay, so he appropriated the commence-

ment of this to an attempt to penetrate to these mountains, with the further view also of discovering any river that might exist in the intermediate space. In pursuance of this plan, he passed through a considerable extent of forest, consisting of very noble timber, and for the most part unobstructed by underwood. He attained, however, neither his object of reaching the mountains, nor of discovering a river; but having gained the summit of a beautiful eminence, from which he had some fine views of the country, and not imagining either from the state of his provisions, or the weather, or his ability to encounter any more fatigue at that time, that he could extend his walk much further, and considering the hill above-mentioned, to which he gave the name of Belle Vuë, as in a great degree rewarding his efforts, he returned to the settlement.

Whatever else may be the theme of our narrative, the necessary and more homely considerations of subsistence and shelter at Sydney, naturally call back our attention to them. The works there were carried on with unremitting exertion. A residence, as convenient as circumstances would allow, was constructed for the use of the lieutenant-governor, one face of which was in the principal

street already marked out. A wooden building, covered in with reeds and intended for a store-house, was for the present, of necessity, made use of for the performance of divine worship. A farm upon the banks of a neighbouring cove, had been carried on with the greatest industry, but the soil was far from encouraging, and at this time a distressing circumstance occurred there; five ewes and a lamb were killed by the wild native dogs. This ferocious animal may be not improperly considered as a kind of jackal. It admits of being tamed to a certain degree, and is often observed to attend the natives; but it never wholly lays aside its savage character. In its wild state it has been found very destructive of sheep, goats, pigs, poultry, and every domestic animal but the larger sorts. It often hunts the kangaroo.

A good bricklayer having been found amongst the convicts, a number of labourers were put under his direction, and many small brick houses, or rather huts, were constructed with great expedition. The governor still inhabited his canvass house. A set of labourers were employed, under a mason, upon a small stone building, intended as a more comfortable though temporary residence for him.

No chalk or limestone had as yet been

discovered. Lime was still however obtainable. The coast produced many sorts of shell-fish, particularly oysters, which the natives were in the constant habit of procuring for subsistence. Near the mouths of the numerous caverns in which they at times took refuge, heaps or mounds of these shells were often discovered, which had perhaps been the gradual accumulation of ages. These deposits, together with the shell-fish collected by the colonists, produced more lime than could have been expected from such a resource. In some instances clay was used as a substitute for it.

In the month of May, the entire live stock of the colony, public and private, was found to consist of

2 Bulls,	74 Pigs,
5 Cows,	5 Rabbits,
1 Horse,	18 Turkeys,
3 Mares,	29 Geese,
3 Colts,	35 Ducks,
29 Sheep,	210 Fowls.
19 Goats,	

In the ensuing month, an accident occurred, the importance of which can only be estimated from the situation of an infant colony. Two bulls and four cows, from the carelessness of the herdsman, were lost in the woods, and the

most diligent search to recover them proved ineffectual. It will, however, be seen hereafter, that whatever was the immediate distress or inconvenience attending it, the circumstance proved in the end a most fortunate event for the permanent interests of the settlement.

The summer months in England are precisely the winter months of New South Wales. The coolness of the weather at this time, was observed to have the effect of diminishing the quantity of fish usually taken. The natives, of whom it was the principal food, appeared in many instances to suffer to an extreme degree. An old man, belonging to them, was found on the beach of one of the coves, nearly famished. Those of them who had been accustomed to assist in hauling the seine, had usually been content to wait for such share as the person who had the direction of the boat thought proper to give them, in return for their assistance. Their wants, however, now impelled them to an act of violence. A party of them, being present at a very successful haul, took forcible possession of exactly half the fish; but lest this arrangement should not appear to others as equitable as to them, they took the precaution to station in their rear several of their countrymen with spears poised, in readi-

ness to throw, if any resistance should be made. The argument was too powerful for immediate opposition, but orders were given that a petty officer should always, in future, accompany the fishing boats down the harbour.

The success of the governor's game-killers, though of less public moment than that of the fishers, was at least equally gratifying to the curiosity of the new comers. A bird of the ostrich genus, but of a species very different from any other in the known world, was killed and brought in. Its length was between seven and eight feet; its flesh was good and thought to resemble beef. It has obtained the name of the New South Wales Emu. An incredible variety of birds, of the most splendidly beautiful plumage, were found here. If the melody of the groves was wanting to the ear, a profuse compensation was made to the eye. The *kangaroo* was frequently shot. The form of this animal is, perhaps, now too generally known to need any description here. Its disproportionately short fore-legs, the powerful spring in its tail, which aids it to make its way with great rapidity by successive leaps, and many of its other peculiarities, distinguish it very remarkably from the animal productions of any other part of the world. Its size is

considerable. It is often much more than a hundred weight. Its flesh is good, though nearly destitute of fat, and may be compared to that of the animal called *chevreuil* upon the continent of Europe.

Nature may be said to have in this country indulged in whim. She sometimes mimicks herself in giving to smaller animals, such as the native rat, the general form and characteristics of the kangaroo; she gives to a great variety of species, the false belly of that animal; in numerous instances, animals were discovered which might at first sight be considered as monstrous productions, such as an aquatic quadruped, about the size of a rabbit, with the eyes, colour, and skin of a mole, and the bill and web-feet of a duck, a parrot with the slender legs of a sea-gull, a skate with a head like that of a shark.—The whole animal creation appeared to be different from that of every other region: nor less so the vegetable; every tree and shrub, perhaps without exception, was of a species peculiar to the soil, and another Flora diffused an endless variety of unknown tints and forms.

CHAPTER VIII.

Sirius dispatched to the Cape.

THE governor, after paying the usual honours to his Majesty's birth-day, entertained a numerous company at dinner; on which occasion the name and boundaries of the first county in his Majesty's territory of New South Wales, were fixed. It was named Cumberland. Its limits northward, were to extend to the northernmost point of Broken Bay, southward to the southernmost point of Botany Bay, and westward to the mountains.

The Alexander, Prince of Wales, and Friendship transports, with the Borrowdale store-ship, having completed their preparations for sea, now sailed together for Europe. Only two transports remained of the fleet that had come out from England, and preparations were making for clearing and discharging these from government service.

The following report was at this time made by the principal surgeon, of the state of the sick in the settlement: the number of marines under medical treatment, thirty-six; number

of convicts, sixty-six; convicts unfit for labour, from old age and infirmities, fifty-two.

It was time now to attend to the necessities of the colony at Norfolk Island, and accordingly, the Supply was dispatched for it on the 20th of June, with provisions and stores. In the afternoon of the 22nd, there was a slight shock of an earthquake which lasted a few seconds, and was accompanied with a noise like the distant report of cannon.

In the evening of the 27th, two convicts came in, one of whom had been wounded by the natives with a lance. They had been out in order to gather such esculent plants as the country afforded, and had wandered through the woods and heaths, nearly as far as Botany Bay. They represented the assault as unprovoked; and this the circumstances of this case rendered very probable. It was, however, generally found, on such occasions, that some injury, real or imaginary, had been received by the natives from some of the colonists; and it is the temper of savages to direct their resentment, with equal violence, against the whole body or description of people, to which the individual that has offended them belongs.

It had, from the first, been an object with

the governor, to induce some of the natives to live at Sydney. He thought that many advantages might result from such an intercourse, particularly from the means it would afford of interpreting to them the friendly disposition of the colonists towards them, and of preventing their attributing to them generally, the injuries they might receive from individuals. He had used every method he could devise to effect his purpose, whether by supplying the cravings of their natural wants, or by suggesting to them artificial ones. It had, however, been observed with regret, that except at the hauling of the seine, an operation which was always an irresistible attraction to them, they had become extremely shy. They seemed particularly to avoid the town, or what indeed might still be with more propriety called the encampment. They had certainly received frequent injuries from the convicts, and several of the sailors, when about to leave the coast, had purloined their arms, fishing-tackle, and other things that belonged to them, and which their habitual confidence amongst themselves made them careless of. The only instance, that had for some time occurred, of a visit from them at Sydney, was about this time, when two of them strolled in and made a short stay, during which

they were treated with great kindness, and each presented with a hatchet, with which one of them, to shew that he understood the use of it, shaped a piece of wood to a point. They seemed pleased with all they saw, and grateful for the treatment they received. The governor found, however, that nothing he could do towards conciliating these people had more than a momentary effect upon them, and though he did not chuse to take advantage of their confidence in this instance, yet the necessity of using force, in order to accomplish his object, appeared unavoidable. He accordingly dispatched Lieutenant Ball of the Supply and Lieutenant George Johnston of the marines, with two boats down the main harbour, in order to secure one or more. They landed at a place where a small assemblage of them was perceived near the skirt of a wood, and while one of them, who was so far disposed to confidence as to approach and accost the officers, was in the act of talking to them, a seaman, who had received orders for that purpose, threw a rope round his neck and pulled him to the boat. His more cautious friends, alarmed by his cries, now advanced and threw several lances, but without effect. The boats pushed off with their prisoner.

To the men of civilization now devolved the task of administering consolation to a human being, under the pressure of an evil of *their* inflicting, and which perhaps may have appeared to *him*, the most dreadful that could befall a man. In one moment, all his social ties and habits had been rent; he was in the power of those from whom he had already experienced violence and treachery; and what might be the gloomy apprehensions of an uninformed savage, or indeed of a philosopher, in such a situation, may be difficult to imagine. Nothing, however, was left undone to tranquillize him. These efforts, to a considerable degree, succeeded; and by the time he was presented to the governor, he had recovered a good deal of that cheerfulness and confidence, which appeared to be his natural character.

His name, as he himself soon distinctly announced, was Arabanoo. He seemed to be about thirty years of age: he had an open countenance, much vivacity, and a greater desire to obtain knowledge than usually falls to the lot of a savage, together with an eagerness, aided by a voluble elocution, to communicate his own ideas. Nature had certainly very particularly favoured him above the generality of his

countrymen. He was now treated with distinguished kindness. He soon became reconciled to clothes, and made some progress towards civilized manners and habits. "I have seen him," says Captain Hunter, "sitting, with much decorum, at tea at the governor's, and managing his cup and saucer with perfect ease." Shackles were indeed for some time thought necessary. He was told that these were meant as ornaments and honourable distinctions (*bangally*). But these courtly doctrines did not satisfy him, and it was suspected that he meant to withdraw from such inconvenient honours on the first opportunity. It is certain, however, that he was at length sincerely reconciled to the change. He was, in consequence, left at complete liberty, and never made any attempt to escape.

In the beginning of August, very heavy rains caused all work to be suspended; but they were succeeded by delightful weather. The quantity of fish taken was not inconsiderable; it often amounted to a day's provision for two hundred persons; sometimes, though seldom, it greatly exceeded that quantity. Three sting-rays, of an enormous size, were taken about this time; the two largest weighed

each three hundred pounds, a fact which the respectable testimony of Colonel Collins secures from the suspicion of exaggeration. They were found eatable, and were entirely consumed as food by the convicts and lower classes of people.

On the 26th, the Supply returned from Norfolk Island, after an absence of five weeks and two days, bringing very favourable accounts of the climate and of the progress of the several crops. The flax plant had been found in abundance, but the proper means of dressing it had not yet been discovered. A small kind of plantain had also been found there. It was now confirmed that the landing was most dangerous. A few days before the Supply left the island, a boat, with Mr. Cunningham, midshipman, and three other persons, was lost upon the reef.

At Sydney two boats, one of eight and another of sixteen oars, which had been brought from England in pieces, for the use of the settlement, were now put together by the carpenter of the Supply; but the want of a schooner or two, of thirty or forty tons burden, to be employed in surveying the coast, was much felt.

Notwithstanding the prospect of supplies

from England, and just confidence in the care of government at home, it would have been difficult, even for a man of less prudence than the governor, not to feel some uneasiness upon contemplating the reduced state of the provisions at this time in store, and the extreme inadequacy of any resources which the colony itself could afford in case of distress. It was judged necessary therefore as a precautionary measure, to prepare the *Sirius* for a voyage to the Cape of Good Hope, in order to procure grain and flour. That her stowage might be the greater, she landed eight of her guns, as also a quantity of stores, which till now there had been no means of conveniently receiving on shore. She was not, however, completely ready till the 2nd of October, on which day she set sail under the command of Captain Hunter. Her return was not expected in less than six months. Immediately on her departure, a pound of flour was deducted from the weekly public ration.

Amongst the advantages of Sydney Cove, was not to be reckoned the fertility of its banks. The soil about it was in general sandy, and by no means suitable to the sort of cultivation which the wants of an infant colony demanded. The governor, therefore, thought it advisable

again to examine Port Jackson, with a view to a second settlement, that might possess a more genial soil. This he immediately executed, and made choice of a situation near a stream which enters the upper extremity of the harbour, at the distance of about sixteen miles from Sydney. It was a moderate elevation, the soil a rich clay, free from stones, covered with trees at considerable distances, and without underwood. To this spot he removed about eighty persons from Sydney, and gave it the name of Rose Hill. One advantage that presented itself with respect to this settlement, was its admitting of a communication with Sydney by water. For the purpose of such an intercourse, a hoy of ten tons was constructed, under the direction of Mr. Reid, the carpenter of the Supply, of the native timber; and this intercourse was ever afterwards regularly kept up between the two settlements.

The labours of the year ended with a truly English observance of Christmas Day. The Reverend Mr. Johnson pronounced an excellent moral discourse inculcating universal benevolence, and a large company forgot their cares in the enjoyment of a harmless festivity at the governor's table.

CHAPTER IX.

Hostility with the Natives.

THE cove now, for the first time, presented the appearance of total desertion, being without a single remaining ship, a circumstance that gave rise to reflections in no small degree dismal, when the state of the provisions and remoteness of the settlement were considered.

New matter of hostility with the natives unfortunately arose at this time. A plant, which had received the name of *sweet tea*, was found in considerable quantities about Sydney, at the first settlement of the colony; but the great demand for it, as it was not only palatable but esteemed medicinal, now made it necessary to seek it at a greater distance. A convict, belonging to the brickmaker's party, having gone in search of it, and not returning, was thought to have been killed by the natives. Sixteen others, his fellow-labourers, determined to revenge his supposed death, and, providing themselves with stakes, set out with the intention of attacking whatever natives they could find. The result of their expedition added one

to the many instances that have occurred, of the danger of despising an enemy. A battle took place with a party of savages, in which this self-created police were forced to retreat with the loss of one killed and six wounded. The whole affair being a violation of the governor's express orders, he next day sentenced those who had escaped, to receive one hundred and fifty lashes each, and to wear a fetter for a year, and the wounded to receive the same punishment as soon as they should recover. The same day, two armed parties were sent out, one towards Botany Bay, and the other in a different direction, that the natives might not think the colonists intimidated.

Soon after this, six soldiers were executed for the unpardonable crime of procuring false keys to the stores, and committing frequent robberies upon them, while on guard. The circumstance of one of them being unable, at the approach of the patrol, to withdraw a key that was embarrassed in the wards of the lock, led to the discovery, as the locks were on each round carefully examined.

The governor, thinking it probable that foreign ships might often visit Port Jackson to wood and water, gave orders to have a

particular bay surveyed, with a view to their separate accommodation. This was accordingly done, and a neighbouring cove, which has since obtained the name of Neutral Cove, having been found, from its depth of water and other circumstances, well adapted to the end proposed, it was inserted in the port orders that all foreign ships coming in should anchor there.

It appeared at this time, that a great mortality prevailed amongst the natives. Numbers of dead bodies were found along the shores and in the caves. The cause remained unknown till two old men, with a boy and a girl, were brought up to the town, and the disorder pronounced to be the small-pox. They were placed in a separate hut at the hospital. The men died, but the children recovered. The boy was placed with Mr. White the surgeon, and the girl with the Reverend Mr. Johnson. But a circumstance that produced universal regret, was the death of *Arabadoo*, who soon after died of the same disorder.

On the 6th of May, about five in the evening, after an absence of seven months and six days, and to the great satisfaction of every one, the *Sirius* anchored in the cove from the Cape of Good Hope. She appeared to have suffered

greatly from the weather she had met with. The figure at the head of the ship was torn from the cutwater, and she was found to be in other respects much damaged. Her course outwards had been by New Zealand and Cape Horn, and her return by Van Dieman's Land. In the former part of this voyage there had been much risk from numerous islands of ice, and in the latter she had encountered a storm off Tasman's Head, in which her situation, in the opinion of her able commander, was in the highest degree perilous, and her escape, as expressed in his journal, demonstratively attributable to the interposition of a particular providence.

The Sirius brought a supply of a hundred and twenty-seven thousand weight of flour, which was equal to the exigencies of the colony at the full ration for four months. The inevitable consequences that would have ensued from a failure of this supply, had such a misfortune taken place, will be seen hereafter.

CHAPTER X.

Examination of Broken Bay.

PERSONS accustomed only to civilized, inhabited countries, are not able easily to conceive the horrors which attend the being *lost* in such a country as New South Wales. To miss his way, even in the wildest portion of his native land, can hardly, to an European, be more than a nominal evil: the sportsman with his gun, the contemplative man in his solitary walks, is overtaken by night in some unknown part; but many hours can scarcely elapse before the "rush taper from the wicker hole of some clay habitation," or else the "village cock," or "whistle from the lodge," relieves him from his transient suffering; his adventure is recollected next day without pain, or perhaps numbered with past enjoyments. Very different is the situation of the unhappy human being who has wandered beyond the protection of society, in a savage wilderness, where he finds himself beset with misery and death in all their most ghastly forms, with perhaps but a very small, if any, chance of relief. "It is certain," says Colonel Collins, "that if

“ destroyed by no other means, insanity would
“ accelerate the miserable end that must
“ ensue.” The very incautious manner in
which numbers of persons in New South
Wales, run the risk of a situation so terrifying
even to imagine, has been a subject of remark.
One instance of this kind occurred in the
month of May this year. Two soldiers of
the detachment doing duty at Rose Hill, left
that settlement together in search of the sweet
tea plant, and with the intention no doubt of
a very short absence; but these men were
never more heard of, and must of course have
miserably perished. It is probable, that being
unable to find their way home, they died for
want of sustenance; perhaps at no great
distance from the place they must have so
anxiously sought. A dog that left the settle-
ment with them, reached it nine days after-
wards almost famished.

The governor was now preparing for a
second excursion to Broken Bay, his former
one having been short and unsatisfactory. On
the 6th of June he accordingly set out, accom-
panied by Captain Hunter, Captain Collins*,

* Judge-advocate; afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel.

Captain Johnston of the marines, Mr. White, principal surgeon of the settlement, Mr. Worgan, Mr. Fowell, and some attendants. Having crossed Port Jackson harbour, they landed on the opposite shore, and proceeded for some time by a difficult and fatiguing route, partly along the beach and partly through woods and along paths which had been practised by the natives, till they arrived at one of the branches of the bay. Here they found their boats, which they had sent round to meet them with provisions, tents, and other necessaries, and immediately proceeded to their purposed examination of these shores.

Objects take their moral colour from circumstances. Scenes, which, on the former occasion, when bad weather and real hardships were superadded to the indisposition of some of the party, had been termed by them gloomy and terrific, now seemed romantic and sublime. They pitched their tents on a small island, which, in acknowledgment of the delicious fish with which its shores supplied them in great abundance, they named Mullet Island; and from thence they made their survey and excursions on every side. It was observed in these parts, that the natives derived some of their subsistence from a small wild yam; as the

earth appeared much rooted up in many places where it was found to grow. Terrible proofs almost every where occurred of the ravages of the small-pox. The following passage of Captain Hunter's journal, so creditable to his humane feelings as well as those of the other gentlemen, is too interesting to be omitted.

“ In the course of the little excursions of our
“ boats' crews this afternoon, a native woman
“ was discovered, concealing herself from our
“ sight in the long grass, which was at this
“ time very wet, and I should have thought
“ very uncomfortable to a poor naked creature.
“ She had before the arrival of our boats at
“ the beach, been with some of her friends,
“ employed in fishing for their daily food, but
“ they were alarmed upon their approach and
“ had all made their escape, except this
“ miserable girl, who had just recovered from
“ the small-pox and was very weak, and
“ unable, from a swelling in one of her knees
“ to get off to any distance; she therefore
“ crept off, and concealed herself in the best
“ manner she could among the grass, not
“ twenty yards from the spot on which we
“ had placed our tents. She was discovered
“ by some person who had fired at and shot a
“ hawk right over her, which terrified her so

“ much that she cried out and discovered
“ herself. Information was immediately
“ brought to the governor, and we all went to
“ see this unhappy girl, whom we found, as I
“ have already observed, just recovered from
“ the small-pox, and lame. She appeared to
“ be about seventeen or eighteen years of age,
“ and had covered her debilitated and naked
“ body with the wet grass, having no other
“ means of hiding herself. She was very
“ much frightened on our approaching her,
“ and shed many tears with piteous lamenta-
“ tions. We understood none of her expres-
“ sions, but felt much concern at the distress
“ she seemed to suffer. We endeavoured all
“ in our power to make her easy, and with the
“ assistance of a few expressions which had
“ been collected from poor Arabanoo while he
“ was alive, we soothed her distress a little,
“ and the sailors were immediately ordered to
“ bring up some fire, which we placed before
“ her. We pulled some grass, dried it by the
“ fire, and spread it round her to keep her
“ warm. We then shot some birds, such as
“ hawks, crows, and gulls, skinned them, and
“ laid them on the fire to broil, together with
“ some fish, which she eat; we then gave her
“ water, of which she seemed to be much in

“ want, for when the word *baado* was men-
“ tioned; which was their expression for water,
“ she put her tongue out to shew how very dry
“ her mouth was; and indeed from its appear-
“ ance and colour she had a considerable
“ degree of fever on her. Before we retired to
“ rest for the night, we saw her again and got
“ some fire-wood laid within her reach, with
“ which she might in the course of the night
“ recruit her fire; we also cut a large quantity of
“ grass, dried it, covered her up and left her
“ to her repose, which, from her situation, I
“ conjecture was not very comfortable or
“ refreshing. Next morning we visited her
“ again; she had now got pretty much the
“ better of her fears, and frequently called to
“ her friends who had left her, and who, we
“ knew, could be at no great distance from
“ her; she repeated their names in a very loud
“ and shrill voice, and with much apparent
“ anxiety and concern for the little notice they
“ took of her entreaties to return: for we
“ imagined in all she said when calling on
“ them, that she was informing them, that the
“ strangers were not enemies, but friends.
“ However, all her endeavours to bring them
“ back were ineffectual, while we remained
“ with her; but we were no sooner gone from

“ the beach, than we saw some of them come
“ out of the wood; and there being two canoes
“ on the shore, they launched one of them into
“ the water, and went away.”

But that which crowned the efforts of this party, and would have more than rewarded an expedition of much greater labour or danger, was the discovery of the river Hawkesbury, which runs into the western extremity of the bay. The view of its entrance had been at first intercepted by a point of high land, which they had taken for an island. No time was lost in exploring this interesting stream. It was found to be at its mouth about three hundred fathoms in width; its general direction for nearly fifteen miles, was towards the north-west; its soundings were very unequal, but in most places from four to seven fathoms. If the importance of the Hawkesbury, in a view of navigation, equalled its picturesque effects, few rivers could be put into competition with it. Irregularity and wild grandeur seem to be its distinguishing character. Sometimes confined by stupendous rocks, and overhang by forests, it works its way amidst obstructing fragments. Again expanding itself over a variety of depths, the precipices on each hand seem to retire in order to make room for its

waters. It may be considered as the first of mountain streams. But if it has in perfection the circumstances that recommend these, it has also their general disadvantages. It exemplifies in nothing but limpid clearness, the well-known lines in which the enthusiasm of Denham describes the Thames. "Strong without rage, without overflowing: full," would never apply to the Hawkesbury. For several miles along its banks, the bent in one direction even of the largest trees, gives testimony to the excess and fury of its torrent. After having proceeded twenty miles up, several considerations induced the party, though reluctantly, to determine on returning to Sydney; but it was agreed that it should be solely in order to renew and extend their research with greater effect.

On their return to the settlement, immediate preparations were made for this purpose; so that on the 28th they were enabled to set out again, with some accession to their party. On the first of July they entered the river, and proceeded a considerable way further than before. They also looked into some of its branches. On the fourth day of ascending it, its breadth was about thirty fathoms. As it narrowed, it became gradually, though less

striking or imposing, more delightful. If its beauty had sometimes been lost in its grandeur, here its grandeur was relieved by its beauty. The most irregular banks, a devious channel, and the umbrage of enormous trees, formed a scenery, to which in many parts no pencil could do justice. Yet the height of many of its rocks was found even here to be two hundred and fifty feet perpendicular, and of some even more.

The party encamped each night on the most commodious spot that could be found, and were undisturbed by the natives. These on being seen, generally fled into the woods. In one instance, however, the word *cowie*, (come here,) pronounced loudly and distinctly, had its effect. "Two men," says Captain Hunter, "came to the water side with much apparent familiarity and confidence: I thought, from this circumstance, that they had certainly seen us before, either at Botany Bay, Port Jackson, or Broken Bay; they received a hatchet, and a wild-duck, which had been just before shot from the boat; and in return, they threw us a small coil of line, made of the hair of some animal, and also offered a spear, which was refused. The only argument against their having seen

“ us before is, that they were the first we had
“ met with who appeared desirous of making
“ a return for any present they received.”
Having ascended the stream nearly forty miles,
the party arrived on the 5th, at the foot of an
acclivity upon the right, the sides of which
were for the most part covered with large
spreading trees at considerable distances and
without underwood. Landing here, they
walked up to its summit, which they found
tolerably free from wood of any sort, and of a
good soil. They were now enabled by the
view from this situation to form some notion of
the face of the country. It appeared evident
that they had been constantly approaching
those vast mountains, which had been denomi-
nated the Blue Mountains, and which were
now perceived to be not many miles off. In
the intermediate space, were two ranges of
hills, to which the governor gave the names of
the Landsdown and Carmarthen Hills. The
beautiful swelling eminence on which they
stood, he named Richmond Hill. Here Cap-
tain Hunter took the meridian altitude of the
sun, by which he found the latitude to be 33°
 $37'$. Having prepared a small piece of ground,
they planted some potatoes and sowed Indian
corn, melon and other seeds. This method

of introducing foreign productions into this country, had already been put in practice by them, in other spots, where the soil was favourable and the situations appeared unfrequented. Some of these little gardens were afterwards found to have failed, but others gave great hope of a most useful result.

It might now be supposed, that for only a second attempt to explore this river, enough had been done; but on descending the hill, the unallayed thirst of discovery induced the party to make a still further effort. This, however, was found to be attended with difficulties too great to be encountered at that time. After proceeding upwards a little further, the frequent shallows, the obstructions of a rocky channel, and sometimes those arising from large trees fallen from age into the stream, induced them to give over any further exertion; especially as the distant roar of waters heard here, left no reason to doubt that there were falls further on. On the evening of the 6th, they began to descend the river. More frequent opportunities now occurred of intercourse with the natives. It was observed that their limbs, particularly their arms, at least to all appearance, were longer than those of the inhabitants of the coasts. This was attributed to their

constant climbing of trees after the opossum and other prey ; which they do even up the highest and cleanest stems, by making as they ascend a number of successive notches, each of which, with the help of clinging by one arm, affords a sufficient footing, till they thus gradually reach the branches. These notches are surprisingly small, considered as resting places for the foot. Trees were often found marked in this manner ; and the climbers readily displayed the skill they had acquired by long practice in this way. The instrument used for the purpose is made of a stone found in the shallows of the upper part of the Hawkesbury, sharpened to a fine edge, and fastened ingeniously enough by gum and other means, to a wooden handle. Frequent traps were found in these parts for catching various animals.

On the 10th, the party arrived and slept at Mullet Island. Here they reposed themselves the whole of the 11th, and regaled on fish. They next day landed in Pitt Water, the principal southern arm of the bay. Their return to the settlement, like the beginning of their expedition, was in part performed by traversing the woods which lie between that and Port Jackson. Their taking this route was in one

respect a fortunate circumstance. "At eight, "in the morning," says Captain Hunter, "we "heard the report of a great gun, which led "me to suspect that some person belonging "to the Sirius was missing, and had probably been lost in the woods ; we frequently "fired muskets that morning, and sometimes "imagined we heard a musket at a considerable distance in the woods ; in consequence "of this suspicion, we frequently fired several "together, and as often heard the report of "that which we believed was meant to answer "us ; in short, by means of these repeated "vollies, we drew nearer to that which "answered us, and by hallooing all together, "found we had got within hearing of the "person who had answered our firing ; for, "after calling out, we listened attentively, and "heard a very faint voice in answer : in that "direction we walked, and at last, by frequent "calling, and answering, we found the person "out, who proved to be Peter White, sail-maker of the Sirius, who had been four "days lost, and when he set out from the ship "had not more than four ounces of biscuit "with him, one ounce of which he had still "left ; he was very faint, and appeared to us "to be stupid and almost exhausted, for he

“ staggered like a man drunk ; we took him
“ with us, and by giving him such provisions
“ as we had, in small proportions, he was in
“ a few hours a good deal recovered ; but I
“ think if he had not been found as he was, in
“ twenty-four hours more he would not have
“ been able to make any further effort to save
“ himself, and must have perished where he
“ lay down. It is remarkable, that the flint of
“ his gun being worn to a stump, he could not
“ get fire out of it the whole of the day before,
“ when trying to shoot some birds for his subsistence, until night came on, when it was
“ necessary for him to have a fire to sleep by ;
“ he then tried it again with very little hope
“ of succeeding, but contrary to his expectations, he got a fire and sat by it the whole
“ night ; the next morning it failed him
“ repeatedly, until he had occasion to answer
“ our muskets, when it struck fire every time he
“ wished to answer us ; otherwise, in all probability, we should not have found him.
“ This is exactly his own account.”

The party arrived at Sydney on the 13th.

That a river such as the Hawkesbury, within thirty miles (in a direct line) from Sydney, should not have been discovered for eighteen months after the first settlement of the colony,

can hardly fail of being remarked. Governor Phillip will probably, however, from the circumstances of the case, be acquitted by the reader; of any culpable degree of inactivity. Directly, indeed, and through a thick forest, the distance was not great; but the circuitous route which it was necessary to take was very considerable, and at all events the issue of any such expedition was of an uncertain nature. The constant attention also to objects of absolute necessity, and the indispensable vigilance at head-quarters in a colony so circumstanced, must be taken into the account.

CHAPTER XI.

Works at the Settlement—Diminution of the public ration.

THE *Sirius* had been so much weakened by the severe weather she had met with, that it was judged necessary she should undergo a complete repair. A convenient, retired cove being fixed upon for this purpose, on the north shore of the main harbour, where the people employed upon her were less likely to meet with those temptations to idleness and bad company which the settlement too frequently afforded, she dropped down to it towards the end of July.

Further discoveries to the westward still continued to be anxiously desired. But the mountains, so long contemplated with an eye of curiosity, had not only not yet been passed but had never even yet been reached. Mr. Dawes with a small party about this time, exerted his well-known activity, in an effort at least to penetrate to their base. For this purpose he proposed tracing for some length and then crossing, a river first seen by Captain

Tench* and named the Nepean. Its course was northerly. It was supposed to be a branch of the Hawkesbury. That he might be as little encumbered as possible, he carried with him only just the quantity of provisions that he thought might be necessary. From this excursion he returned on the ninth day, without having accomplished his design; having met with nothing after quitting the river on the further side, but a succession of dells and ravines nearly impassable. He computed that he had reached within about ten miles of the mountains.

The governor after the death of the native who had been carried off by the small-pox, had it always in view to secure one or two more, the first opportunity. It may be recollected that a native boy and girl labouring under this disorder, had been taken and brought up to the settlement. The boy's name was Nanbarry, also Balderry, that of the girl was Abaroo. They had by this time made such a progress in English as to understand almost every thing that was said to them, and express their wants on all common occasions; but their

* The officer mentioned in page 28.

tender age prevented their answering those purposes, particularly that of forming a communication with the other natives, which the governor had proposed from domesticating some that were full-grown; especially as these latter would not run the same risk of losing the knowledge of their own language. A boat was therefore now sent, under the command of an officer, to the north shore of the main harbour, and two men were secured and brought up to Sydney. One of them was named Coalby; he was about thirty-five; the other Benillong, about twenty-five. To all appearance the former possessed some authority over the latter, who seemed always to be under an awe in his presence. The circumstance was confirmed by the young natives. Though these savages were strictly watched and even shackled, one of them, Coalby, made his escape.

In England some dependence had been placed on fish as a resource for the settlement. It was however found at best a very precarious one. On the 4th of September the people of the Supply had a very large haul; their seine was so full that had it been drawn ashore it must have burst; the ropes were therefore made fast and it was suffered to lie

till left dry by the tide. Soon after this a fishing party from the town, took so many at a haul, that had not the seine broke at the moment of landing, it was imagined that a sufficiency would have been taken to have served the settlement for a day; and not long after, a boat belonging to the *Sirius* brought in a considerable quantity of a large fish which had obtained in the colony the appellation of light-horseman, from the peculiar conformation of the head, which gave it the appearance of a helmet. But the general supply was not at all to be calculated from such occasional successes as these. Emus were sometimes shot and continued to be in great request as food. There was one killed at this time in a corn-field at Rose Hill, that stood seven feet high. This enormous bird has been already described. Kangaroos were also not unfrequently shot or run down with dogs.

At the beginning of November, the very distressing but unavoidable necessity took place of reducing the public ration to two-thirds of every sort of provisions, spirits excepted. This regulation was extended to the ships' companies of the *Sirius* and *Supply* as well as the settlement. When it is considered that at the first landing, the colony possessed but two

years' provisions, and that the only subsequent importation was the flour from the Cape of Good Hope, it will not appear extraordinary that apprehensions of a very gloomy nature should now begin to prevail. In this situation it was a circumstance honourable to the governor and to the colony, that no reduction of the necessaries of life was extended to women. It was considered that a proportionate difference in the full ration, such as the difference of sex pointed out, had originally taken place, and that many women at this time had children to nourish at the breast.

A new observatory, the first having been found too small, was commenced at the west point of the cove, as well for the residence of the ingenious and well-informed officer* who had the direction of it, as for the reception of the astronomical instruments. Of the four barracks which had been begun soon after the landing, two had now been for some time occupied by the detachment, each accommodating two companies so commodiously, that one of the remaining buildings was converted into a store-house, and the materials of the other

* Lieutenant Dawes.

were taken for some different purpose. A brick house was begun on the east side of the cove for the judge-advocate. Clay was in this instance substituted for mortar. This was effected by making the walls the thicker; and being covered with tiles instead of thatch and made more roomy than the wooden houses, it was an habitation of comparative comfort and convenience. Two convenient kitchens and ovens for the use of the detachment, were constructed near the marine quarters; a new, tiled store-house was also built near the same place, and the provisions removed from the old, thatched one. The labourers were also employed at this time in making roads through, or in the vicinity of, the town.

The settlement of Rose Hill proceeded successfully. A number of good huts were erected. The convicts were encouraged to work in gardens, which they had permission to cultivate on their own account, during those hours which were not appropriated to public labour. Barracks were erected and a small redoubt constructed, in which stood the provision store. Barns and granaries were provided. For all these purposes, the timber in these parts was in general found better than at Sydney. The people continued healthy. The

great salubrity indeed of both settlements was such, that intemperance appeared to have less destructive effects than elsewhere. The produce of the harvest at Rose Hill was something better than two hundred bushels of wheat, about thirty-five bushels of barley and a small quantity of oats and Indian corn. Mr. Dodd the superintendant of that settlement, sent to Sydney some cabbages of an almost incredible size. The other productions of the gardens there were of a growth that was enthralling at the principal settlement.

The cove upon the north side of the main harbour, to which the *Sirius* had been sent in July to be repaired, had been named Careening Cove. The ship was in a state of such forwardness on the 7th of November, as to be moved over to Sydney Cove. A few days before that time, John Mara, the gunner's mate, had been missing and was supposed to have been lost in the woods. Parties were sent out in search of him, but without success. The third day after he had disappeared, Captain Hunter, in going up the harbour in a boat, thought he heard a voice from the shore, and rowing immediately to the part from whence it came, he there found the person missing. He had in reality been lost in the

woods; as had been conjectured, but had at length regained the shore of the harbour; at such a distance, however, from the cove where the ship was, that in his enfeebled state he would probably never have reached it of himself. He had subsisted on the sweet-tea plant, which no doubt contains some nourishment, being sufficiently sweet to be ordinarily used without sugar.

We give the following circumstances in the words of Captain Hunter, of another occurrence of the same kind.—“The night before
“ we left Careening Cove, Mr. Francis Hill,
“ one of the master’s mates, had desired permission to go over to Sydney Cove, and to
“ return early the next morning; he went
“ over, and was the next morning early put
“ across to the nearest part of the north shore,
“ intending to walk round to the ship, a route
“ which had been often taken by many of our
“ gentlemen, and was not more than an hour
“ and a half’s walk; but in this short distance
“ Mr. Hill lost himself. The next day parties
“ were sent out different ways, and boats were
“ sent both up and down the harbour in search
“ of him; a gun for their and his direction
“ was fired from the ship every two hours, and
“ this continued for two days. The third day,

“ additional parties were sent, to the number
“ of nine or ten; in short, every piece of
“ ground where it was thought possible he
“ might have passed, was traversed over and
“ over by the different parties, but without
“ effect: we had therefore, much reason to
“ believe that he fell in with a party of the
“ natives, who probably murdered him, for he
“ had no arms of any kind with him. That
“ this opinion of a disposition in the natives to
“ take advantage of a single person, particu-
“ larly when unarmed, is not ill founded, we
“ have had many instances to prove; one of
“ which took place not long before the time
“ that Mr. Hill was lost, and nearly about the
“ same part of the harbour. A man belonging
“ to the *Sirius*, who had generally been em-
“ ployed in shooting for the officers, was a few
“ days previous to the supposed death of Mr.
“ Hill, in the woods looking for game, and had
“ been seen by a party of the natives from the
“ skirts of a thicket; they had not been
“ observed by him, and taking the advantage
“ of that, threw a large stone at him, which
“ very narrowly missed his head, he in return
“ fired a charge of small shot at them, which
“ I suppose they felt no inconvenience from,
“ as they laughed at him, and advanced with

“ their lances; he was pretty quick in loading
“ his gun again, into which he put a heavy
“ charge of buck-shot, and as they appeared
“ to him to be determined on mischief, he
“ resolved, for his own safety, to be before-
“ hand with them; he took very good aim,
“ and fired right amongst them; two of them
“ fell, and the rest, with great precipitation,
“ made off, but he believed they carried their
“ wounded (probably dead) friends with them;
“ he stood where he was and loaded his gun,
“ then came towards the ship without seeing
“ any more of them.”

Captain Hunter adds, that soon after the time that Mr. Hill was missing, a midshipman and five of a boat's crew, having landed without arms on the north shore near a cover, some spears were thrown at them, one of which struck the hat of one of the seamen, and the natives immediately shewed themselves to the number of twenty or thirty. On a musket's being sent for to the boat, they quickly disappeared. There is no doubt that they entertained very hostile feelings at this time.

CHAPTER XII.

Distress of the Colony.

FROM what has already been stated respecting the provisions, it will not appear extraordinary, that much uneasiness should have prevailed in the colony at the commencement of this year (1790). The flour which the governor had so providentially obtained from the Cape, was already in part consumed. The salt provisions were much reduced, and if any delay in the receipt of supplies should take place, would require a still more sparing distribution. The resources of fishing and shooting were extremely uncertain, and the quantities of grain or vegetables produced at Rose Hill, or in the neighbourhood of Sydney, were inconsiderable as a public supply. The utmost that could be expected at the present allowance, was that the colony should subsist till June.

Had it been known that within a few days of this very time, that on the 23rd of December, in latitude $45^{\circ} 54'$ south, longitude $41^{\circ} 30'$ east, the Guardian, a ship of war of forty-four guns, coming to the colony with the most

abundant supplies from England, had struck upon an island of ice, and that in order to save her, it had been found necessary to throw overboard the greatest part of her valuable cargo, after which, by the admirable conduct of her commander and crew, she had been able, with the utmost difficulty, and nearly a wreck, to get back to the Cape of Good Hope, where she had recently touched, the general anxiety would have been converted into despair. This vessel had been equipped with a view, not only to the exigencies of the colony, but even to convenience and luxury. Besides an immense quantity of provisions, she carried out a large supply of clothing, of bedding, of sails, of cordage, of wine, of medicines, of tools, of agricultural implements, an assortment of plants and seeds arranged under the direction of Sir Joseph Banks and completed at the Cape, a number of horses, cows, sheep, goats, deer, and many other objects too tedious to enumerate. As the colonists were ignorant of this terrible blow, so they were unable to foresee the extent of hardship and privation which they were still to encounter. Their auguries however were of no favourable kind. They considered that the delay must proceed either from neglect or accident. They saw

the unreasonableness of the former of these suppositions, and the latter might involve their inevitable destruction. One of the first measures of precaution adopted under these circumstances, was to send the Supply to Norfolk Island with some convicts, only twenty-four in number, but with the view principally of ascertaining to what extent that island might be further capable of disburthening the principal settlement. The luxuriance of its gardens, the quantity of fish on its coasts, and still more the multitude of birds there, afforded a hope that much might be done in this way. There was a small island, or rather an immense rock, between Port Jackson and Norfolk Island, in latitude $31^{\circ} 46'$, longitude $159^{\circ} 4'$ east, remarkable principally as a haunt of birds and for the quantity of turtle upon its shores. It had been named Lord Howe's Island. Besides the chief object of this expedition, the Supply was directed, for the purpose of procuring as many turtle as possible, to leave some of her people at this island as she went out, and bring them off on her return. She sailed on the 7th of January.

The general expectation of relief now engrossed the minds of all, and the constant employment of those who could command any

leisure, was to seek some eminence, from which they might espy the first sail that should approach. Captain Hunter offered with a few men from the *Sirius*, to go to the south head of the main harbour, there to build a look-out and erect a flag-staff upon the height which might be seen from the sea, and which might also communicate information of the appearance of ships on the coast. The governor approved the proposal and the captain accordingly went with eight men, accompanied by Mr. Worgan surgeon of the *Sirius*, and Mr. White, and pitched a tent at the proposed spot. He there passed some time and erected a flag-staff together with a small but tolerable adjoining habitation. He was then relieved by Mr. Bradley with a fresh party.

A draught of fish larger than common, becomes under such circumstances as these an historical event, and the more so, as it was a thing not very frequent at this time. A sufficiency was taken in one night, to supply two pounds the next day to every person in the settlement.

A convict belonging to Rose Hill, who was employed about this time, in some of the waters of the main harbour, in striking the sting-ray, had the imprudence to engage in some quarrel with a party of natives on the

beach, who, with their characteristic violence, aggravated perhaps by other and recent provocations, were proceeding to kill him, when one of their women rushed to his deliverance, and with the eloquence inspired by compassion, prevailed on them to spare his life; thus exhibiting on the desolate shores of New Holland and amidst the most barbarous of the human race, a moral scene that might have engaged the attention of the poet or tragedian. So true it is that human nature is every where the same!

The first signal from the flag-staff at the south head, was displayed on the 10th of February; but hope, on this occasion, was of short duration. The sail was soon discovered to be the Supply, on her return from Norfolk Island. Being unable to work into Port Jackson, she bore down for Botany Bay, in which harbour she anchored in the dusk of the evening. The next morning, the letters she had brought were received at Sydney. From these, the governor conceived he had sufficient grounds to put into execution his plan of disburdening the principal settlement of a part of its population. The Sirius had undergone a complete repair, and he resolved to send a number of people by her and the Supply, under

the command of Captain Hunter, to Norfolk Island. He fixed the 5th of March for their departure, if there should be no arrival before that day from Europe. It was also further intended that if the expected succours should not have arrived on the return of the *Sirius*, she should be immediately dispatched for a cargo either to China or the Cape of Good Hope. The quantity of turtle brought by the *Supply* from Lord Howe's Island, proved very trifling. On the 3rd the expected supplies not having arrived, two companies of marines, with their officers and colours embarked on board the *Sirius* and *Supply*. With them also embarked the lieutenant-governor, and Mr. Considen the senior assistant-surgeon of the settlement. On the following day, one hundred and sixteen male and sixty-eight female convicts, with twenty-seven children were put on board. On the 5th they sailed. Immediately upon the departure of these ships, the governor directed his attention to the further regulation of the subsistence of the colony and the preservation of the stock. For these purposes he visited the different huts and gardens that were just vacated, and distributed them to other tenants, mostly convicts. Orders were given that no hogs should be killed without a permission.

Individuals were encouraged to sell their live stock to the government. Strict measures were taken for the security of the stores. On the 27th a further reduction of the public ration took place. It was fixed, by the week, at four pounds of flour, two pounds and a half of pork, and one pound and a half of rice; and in consequence of this diminution of subsistence, public labour was ordered to cease every day at one o'clock, and the remainder of the time was allowed for the care of each individual's house and garden. To prevent waste, the provisions were ordered to be given out daily instead of weekly. Fish whenever brought in was distributed in the proportion of ten pounds in lieu of two and a half of pork. The night-watch was directed to be more than ever active and vigilant for the protection of private as well as public property. The same regulations took place at Rose Hill. Much rain fell at this time.

On the 3rd of April, the Supply returned from Norfolk Island with an account which was enough to stagger the courage of the boldest. The Sirius was wrecked on the 19th upon the reef at that island. The captain and people were saved. The loss of this vessel, which was so much the larger of the two, and

upon which such hopes had been placed, was a piece of ill luck that produced a degree of gloom and despondence in the colony, only to be conceived by those who have been placed in a situation equally distressing. The anxiety of the governor was extreme. He thought it necessary under such circumstances to assemble the officers of the settlement, civil and military, to consult upon the measures that were next to be adopted. The result was a still lower reduction of the public ration, and the adoption of every possible exertion to derive supplies from the shores and woods of the country. All private boats were to be surrendered for the public use. A fishery was to be established at Botany Bay as well as Port Jackson, under an idea that it was rather more productive. An officer was to attend every fishing party to prevent waste or embezzlement. It was proposed to take all the hogs in the settlement as public property. Every precaution was used to prevent the robbery of gardens. Suspicious characters were kept in custody during the night.

The governor in this season of distress gave up for public use three hundred weight of flour which was his private property, declaring that he wished not to see any thing more at his

table than the ration which was received in common from the public store, without any distinction of persons; and to this resolution he rigidly adhered; a conduct which will scarcely be estimated as it deserves. The sacrifice was humble, and the theatre on which it took place, a miserable colony upon a distant shore: but the principle evinced by it was the same to which great names and great occasions have given merited lustre.

Besides these measures it was determined to send the Supply to Batavia to purchase provisions; and as her own tonnage was trifling when the necessities of the colony were considered, Lieutenant Ball, under whose command she was to sail, was authorized to hire another vessel there, and to purchase two hundred thousand pounds of flour, eighty thousand of beef, sixty thousand of pork, seventy thousand of rice, together with some other necessaries, such as sugar, sago, hog's lard, vinegar and dongaree. She sailed on the 17th of April. "The expectation of this relief," says Colonel Collins, "was indeed distant, but yet it was more to be depended upon than that which might be coming from England. A given time was fixed for the return of the Supply; but it was impossible to say when

“ a vessel might arrive from Europe. What-
“ ever might be our distress for provisions, it
“ would be some alleviation to look on to a
“ certain fixed period when it might be
“ expected to be removed. Lieutenant Ball’s
“ passage lay through the regions of fine
“ weather, and the hope of every one was fixed
“ upon the little vessel that was to convey him;
“ yet it was painful to contemplate our very
“ existence as depending upon her safety; to
“ consider that a rough sea, a hidden rock, or
“ the violence of elemental strife, might in one
“ fatal moment precipitate us, with the little
“ bark that had all our hopes on board, to the
“ lowest abyss of misery. In the well-known
“ ability and undoubted exertions of her com-
“ mander however, under God, all placed
“ their dependence; and from that principle,
“ when she sailed, instead of predicting mis-
“ chance, we all, with one wish for her safe
“ return, fixed and anticipated the period at
“ which it might reasonably be expected.”

The convicts at Rose Hill were observed at this time to conduct themselves much better than those at Sydney, “ not a theft” (says Colonel Collins) “ nor any act of ill behaviour
“ having been for some time past heard of
“ amongst them.” It is to be observed how-

ever that they had an abundance of vegetables at that settlement. At Sydney the principal robberies at this time were of gardens.

A kangaroo was killed near Rose Hill of the weight of one hundred and eighty pounds. Shooting, which had never before been considered in the light of a resource, was now become an operation of no small importance. Three convicts of remarkable skill in this way, were thought so deserving of encouragement, especially considering the fatigues they underwent, that a larger ration was allotted to them than to any other persons.—To supply a deficiency of salt, two large iron boilers were erected at the east point of the cove, and the salt produced by the simple process of boiling sea water was issued to the convicts and settlers.

The native (Benillong) who had been brought up to the settlement the year before, and had nearly begun to be reconciled to his new way of life, thought this no improper time to withdraw.

CHAPTER XIII.

Apprehensions of famine.

THE month of June commenced with rain and wind. The elements seemed in unison with the feelings of the unhappy colonists, amongst all classes of whom the most fearful apprehensions now prevailed. The time was arrived beyond which it was impossible much longer to postpone absolute famine. The present period had been reached without it, only by the greatest exertion, contrivance, and self-denial. The governor, whose courage was ever ready where courage was of use, could by no efforts conceal his perturbation. The most manly hearts had nearly yielded to despair. It was at this crisis, that at three in the afternoon of the 3rd, the long-expected signal at the Look-out was descried. The whole settlement was instantaneously in motion and confusion. Every countenance wore the expression of eagerness, joy and anxiety. Although it blew very hard at the time, the governor's secretary, accompanied by Captain Tench and Mr. White immediately went off

and at some risk (for a strong sea was running into the port) reached the ship in time to give directions by which she might be placed in safety in Spring Cove. She proved to be the *Lady Juliana* transport from London, last from Plymouth; from which latter place she had sailed on the 29th of the preceding July (full ten months before) with two hundred and twenty-two female convicts. Strong westerly winds and bad weather prevented her getting into Sydney Cove for some days, when the weather moderating, she was towed up to the settlement. Upon examining the quantity and state of the provisions brought by her, it was found that in consequence of the length of her voyage and the circumstance of twenty casks of flour being spoiled, but above all from the additional consumption that such an increase of people must cause, it would not be prudent to make an addition of more than a pound and a half of flour to the wretched weekly ration.

The news brought by this vessel was almost sufficient to throw the colony into its former state of dejection. The loss of the *Guardian* with all the melancholy and discouraging circumstances attending it, was now for the first time known in the colony. At the time of the

accident the long boat and four others left her, with part of the ship's company and a number of passengers: but the long boat was the only one known to be saved when the *Lady Juliana* left the Cape, having been fortunately seen by a French ship. On board this boat were the master and purser as also the Rev. Mr. Crowther, who was coming out to divide the religious duties of the settlement with Mr. Johnson. Government had also sent out in the *Guardian*, twenty-five convicts who were either farmers or artificers, together with seven persons engaged to serve as superintendants of convicts. Two professed gardeners were amongst the persons supposed to be lost. The superintendants came on to the settlement in the transport. The convicts remained for the present at the Cape.

The anxiety of the colonists was in a great degree renewed. They argued that if Government relied on the arrival of the *Guardian*, without making allowance for the possibility of accident, the colony was still in all probability lost; and it was observed that the sailing of no other ship, actual or intended, was announced by the transport. Had the supposition in question been admitted, so might very justly the conclusion that was drawn from

it: but happily the British Government did not reason so lightly, and on the 20th, nearly three weeks after the arrival of the *Lady Juliana*, the Justinian storeship, after a passage from England of five months, anchored in the cove. She had been off the entrance of the harbour so early as the 2nd, but by a sudden change of wind aided by a current, had been driven to the northward and very nearly lost in a heavy gale, upon some dangerous rocks. This vessel brought an ample cargo of provisions, without any accession to the numbers of those who were to consume them, and the full ration was now at length issued out. It was now known that three more transports might be hourly expected with convicts, and also with the first detachment of a corps raised expressly for the service of the colony, and commanded by Major Grose late of the 29th regiment, who had been appointed lieutenant-governor in the room of Major Ross, and was to follow with another detachment in the *Gorgon* man of war of forty-four guns, by which ship it was intended that the marines should return to England. Early in the morning of the 23rd one of the men at the Look-out discerned a sail to the northward, but the weather becoming thick, soon lost sight of it. The bad weather

continuing, it was not seen again till the 25th, when word was brought up to the settlement that a large ship apparently under jury-masts, was seen on the coast, and on the following day the Surprise transport anchored in the cove, having on board one captain, one lieutenant, one surgeon's mate, one serjeant, one corporal, one drummer, and twenty-three privates of the New South Wales corps, together with two hundred and eighteen male convicts. On the 28th the Neptune and Scarborough anchored off Garden Island, and were warped into the cove the following morning. These transports brought a number of convicts in a most deplorable state. The west side of the cove afforded a scene truly distressing. Upwards of thirty tents were pitched in front of the hospital, for these miserable beings, many of whom were dying of scurvy, dysentery and fever. Several died in the boats as they were rowing ashore, or at the wharf as they were lifting out of the boats. Every care was taken of the wretched survivors by the administering of wine and other necessaries, and parties were sent out to collect a particular berry, the produce of the country, which, from its extreme acetosity, was deemed by the surgeons a powerful anti-scorbutic.

After the relief of the necessities of the settlement, the first thing that occurred to every one's mind, was the sending succours, with all possible dispatch, to Norfolk Island, the subsistence of which was thought to be of a very precarious kind, as depending in a great measure on its natural productions. The Surprise transport and Justinian storeship were accordingly directed to proceed thither. By the 19th of July the Justinian was cleared of her cargo, excepting about five hundred casks of provisions. Being ready before the other vessel she sailed on the 28th. The master was directed, after landing his stores and provisions at Norfolk Island, to proceed to Canton, to freight with teas for Europe. By this ship the governor sent dispatches to the secretary of state.

At a sermon of the Reverend Mr. Johnson's, it was observed that not a few of the female convicts who had arrived in the late ships, were moved to tears by the forcible and humane representation which he addressed to them on their situation.

It has already been mentioned, that a corps raised expressly for the service of the colony, was to be substituted for the marines that had hitherto done the military duty, and that part of

this corps had already arrived. Previously to the departure of the marines from England at the first settlement of the colony, an assurance had been given them that those who behaved well should be allowed to quit the service on their return, or should when relieved be permitted to become settlers. The terms on which they were permitted to settle, were by the last ships received in the dispatches of the secretary of state to the governor, and were as follows; to every non-commissioned officer, an allotment of one hundred and thirty acres, if single, and one hundred and fifty if married; to every private eighty acres if single, and one hundred if married; and ten acres for each child at the time of granting the allotment; free of all fees, taxes, quit-rents and deductions whatsoever, for the term of five years; at the expiration of which time, to be liable, besides all usual imposts, to an annual quit-rent of one shilling for every fifty acres. In the case of their chusing to continue in the service, a bounty was offered of three pounds per man to every non-commissioned officer and private, who should enlist in the new corps, (to form a company to be officered from the marines), and allotments of double the above respective proportions of land, if they behaved

well for five years, to commence at the expiration of that time; the said allotments not to be subject to any fee or tax for ten years, and then to be liable to the usual imposts and an annual quit-rent of one shilling for every fifty acres. At whatever period they received the grant, they were to be supplied with a certain quantity of clothing and one year's provisions, with seed-grain and implements of agriculture. The service of a certain number of convicts was to be assigned to them, when they could make it appear that they could maintain, feed and clothe them. In these instructions no mention was made of grants to officers. The ordinary grant of land to emigrant settlers from England, was to be the same as to a non-commissioned officer of marines. Between every two allotments a space was to be reserved equal to the largest on either side, which space, as crown land, was not to be granted in fee, but might be leased to individuals for fourteen years.

At Rose Hill, improvements were now (September) carried on with much success. A convenient wharf and landing-place were made at that settlement, and a double line of huts with intermediate spaces, was carried up from the foot to the top of the hill, forming a street of considerable length. More com-

modious barracks were begun there, for the use of the new corps; and a spacious garden annexed to them.

A general attention was excited at this time by the entrance of a spermaceti whale into the main harbour. Those who were best acquainted with the nature of this enormous animal, were not without a degree of alarm, which afterwards proved to be but too well founded. He differs, it seems, much, from his dull kindred of the North seas, and in nothing more than in a disposition to mischief. Several boats very gallantly put off with harpoons, but from the unskilfulness of the adventurers, returned with the sole success of having escaped him. He continued to range through the harbour, and was shortly the cause of a very melancholy event. Three soldiers, who had been for some days fishing, called at the Look-out, where they took into their boat Mr. Ferguson, a midshipman, who had sat up the preceding night to write to his father, (Captain James Ferguson, lieutenant-governor of Greenwich Hospital,) and who now took this opportunity of bringing his letters to Sydney, for the purpose of their being dispatched to England by one of the return ships. The whale, whether in his gigantic play or from an

instinct to destroy, pursued the boat and overset it. One of the soldiers reached the beach by swimming: the three other persons lost their lives by this strange casualty. In Mr. Ferguson the service is said to have lost a deserving young man.

This dangerous inmate continued to infest the harbour for several weeks. At length however he ran himself ashore in Manly Cove, where he soon attracted whole tribes of natives, who flocked there from all parts to regale upon him. The governor was at this time on a fishing party on some of the shores in that vicinity. It is remarkable that the day before the running aground of the whale, there were two of the most extraordinary hauls of fish ever known in the colony. In these two hauls were taken nearly four thousand of a species, called by the colonists *salmon*, though bearing no great resemblance to the fish of that name. They were upon an average at least five pounds each. The runaway native, Bennillong, appearing at some distance, but being fearful of approaching, had thirty or forty of them sent to him as a sort of assurance that he was forgiven, and as an overture to his return. The governor was then induced by curiosity to go to the whale-feast, where

Bennillong also came, having so far laid aside his fears as to speak to him, and to act upon the occasion as a kind of conductor of the ceremonies of the place, introducing successively, by name, and with an importance truly ludicrous, a number of the more distinguished natives assembled there. The scene however soon changed to a very serious one. A native, who had hitherto stood at the distance of twenty or thirty yards, having been pointed out, the governor advanced towards him amicably extending his hands; upon which the savage withdrew with an air of distrust, and the governor following him with a continuation of the same action, he took up a lance from the grass and darting it at him with force and exactness, it entered a little above the collar-bone and pierced through. It was barbed. The arms were in the boat. The cockswain leaped out and fired a shot, which however did no execution. He was followed by three others whose arms snapped and missed fire. The savages dispersed. The governor now retired with the gentlemen that were along with him, to the boat. They had some miles to row before they reached the settlement, but the men exerting themselves to the utmost, he was at his house in two hours.

The weapon was extracted by Mr. Balmain, assistant-surgeon of the hospital, who pronounced the wound not mortal. His sufferings did not prevent the governor's issuing the most express orders against any attempt at retaliation.—Thus might this same spermaceti whale (so oddly linked is the chain of human events), have been the not very remote cause of the death of the governor, after having been the immediate one of that of three other persons.

CHAPTER XIV.

Paramatta.

It will be recollected that the Supply was sent to Batavia for provisions ; but it was now apparent that had the sole reliance been upon her, the consequences from unavoidable delays, and notwithstanding the utmost endeavours of her commander, would in all probability have been fatal to the colony. Her return did not take place till the 19th of September, when she anchored in the cove after an absence of five months and two days, with part of the provisions which Lieutenant Ball had purchased. The remainder was to follow in the *Waaksamheyd*, a Dutch snow of three hundred tons burden which he had hired there for that purpose. Of the provisions he had been commissioned to get, he had only been able, instead of two hundred thousand weight of flour, to procure twenty thousand of that article ; but he had purchased two hundred thousand weight of rice over and above the seventy thousand which had been ordered by the governor. He had also procured the salt provisions, and the

various other articles which were in his instructions. Lieutenant Fowell, Mr. Ross the gunner, and several seamen, had fallen victims to the baleful climate of Batavia, which happened at that time to be even more than usually unhealthy. Mr. Ormsby, midshipman, had been left to come on with the Dutch snow, which it was thought would be delayed for a few weeks. That vessel, however, in consequence not only of delays in port but of some foul weather on her passage, did not arrive at Sydney till the 17th of December. She was manned principally with Malays. She brought the remainder of the provisions purchased at Batavia, except forty-two thousand nine hundred weight of rice, which deficiency the governor consented should be made up by a proportionate quantity of butter, which the master had on board.

It has been mentioned that provisions had been already sent to Norfolk Island; but as the ships that carried them were to proceed from thence to China, the state of the people on the island continued still to be unknown at Sydney, and consequently was still an object of much anxiety. With the additions that had been made to the population, there were no fewer than five hundred persons there, and

the difficulties of subsistence must necessarily have been great. On the 22nd of January the Supply sailed for that settlement with further succours and with instructions to bring back Captain Hunter with the officers and crew of the Sirius, which had been wrecked.

The master of the Dutch snow having received a power from the owner, the Sabandhaar of Batavia, either to sell or hire out the vessel to the governor, after she should be cleared of her cargo, His Excellency hired her, in order to convey Captain Hunter and the crew of the Sirius to England, when they should arrive from Norfolk Island. After an absence of just five weeks the Supply returned from that settlement. It now appeared that nothing could have been more opportune than the relief that had been sent there by the Justinian and Surprise, and which had arrived on the 7th of August. The natural resources of the island, as was foreseen, had been the principal dependence of the people there, who without them must have inevitably perished by famine. With respect to the quantity of fish it was found that Governor Phillip's expectation had been too sanguine. Both the weather and the difficulties of the coast, even for boats, rendered that supply very precarious; but the

quantities of a species of bird which has obtained the name of the Norfolk Island Pouter, and which the people there had not unaptly named the Bird of Providence, exceeded all calculation. These birds came in from the sea every evening, in clouds literally darkening the air. They deposited their eggs on Mount Pitt, the large hill in the centre of the island, in holes made by them in the ground, and departed each morning to seek their food again in the sea. The time of taking them was at night, when they hovered in vast multitudes over their nests. The method used was to light small fires, by which they were attracted, and near which they dropped down as fast as the people could pick them up. When this bird is upon the ground the length of its wings prevents its being able to rise, until by gaining some ascent it recovers the use of them. For this purpose nature has provided it with a strong hooked beak, by means of which it can climb a hill or tree, so as to throw itself upon the wing. Its body is but small in proportion to its appearance with its feathers, which are exceedingly thick; it is web-footed and of a rusty-black colour; it lays but one egg, which is about the size of that of a duck, and which may be said almost to fill the cavity

of the body. Its taste is fishy ; the eggs are excellent. At the end of May, although for nearly two months there had not been taken less than from two to three thousand birds every night, yet there appeared to be no diminution of their numbers. Governor Phillips had mentioned as a resource the vast quantity of tropic birds and gannets which might be caught upon the two small islands off the coast. " But if," says Captain Hunter, " the governor had ever spent a winter upon Norfolk Island as I have done, he certainly would not have laid any stress either upon this resource or upon fishing. I have seen the weather so stormy and the surf so high for near a month together, that a boat could not be launched more than twice during that time, and then only for a few hours."

It has already been mentioned that the relief of the island had not taken place till the 7th of August. Its natural resources had by that time in a great degree failed. Even the birds upon Mount Pitt were becoming scarce. The supply of vegetables which from the fertility of the soil and quick succession of crops of every kind might be supposed inexhaustible, had failed in a great degree from the effect of caterpillars and various insects generated by

the quantity of thick cover upon the island. Of the meal and salt provisions although they had been spared as much as possible, there was not a sufficiency left to last for more than a few weeks.

Captain Hunter and the crew of the *Sirius* being returned to Sydney, now prepared for their voyage to England in the *Waaksamheyd*. Two seamen having the option to depart or to become settlers, chose to remain at Sydney, and eight others with two marines returned to Norfolk Island. The rest set sail for Europe on the 28th of March.

On the 10th and 11th of that month an excessive heat had prevailed at Sydney, which was thought to be principally owing to the winds blowing from forests that had been set on fire by the natives.

On the very day that the Dutch snow sailed for Europe an enterprise was undertaken, which from its boldness and partial success seems not unworthy of being mentioned. William Bryant, a convict, with his wife and two children and seven other convicts, made their escape in a fishing boat with the intention of getting to England. The result of this attempt without an explanation of circumstances might very naturally be treated as incredible, for

certain it is that the woman and one child together with four of the convicts reached London. Bryant had obtained from the master of the *Waaksamheyd* a compass, a quadrant, a chart, and such information as might assist him in reaching Timor. He was himself conversant in the management of a boat, and one or two of the convicts who accompanied him had some knowledge of navigation. The party reached Timor and afterwards Batavia. At this latter place Bryant died, as also one child and two of the men. Another is said to have been drowned in the straits of Sunda. The four surviving convicts, with the woman and child, were apprehended at Batavia and delivered up to Captain Edwards of the *Pandora*, who found means afterwards to convey them from the Cape of Good Hope to England. These adventurers on their arrival in London, independently of the commiseration which the various sufferings they had gone through naturally excited, were considered with a sort of interest, as having performed an extraordinary achievement. The convicts however were sentenced to be imprisoned for the remainder of their term.

The town at Rose Hill was at this time (June) rapidly improving, and as its buildings

public and private, its gardens, and particularly its long street reaching to the landing place greatly exceeded the original plan, it received from the governor the new name of Paramatta, that being the native appellation for the ground on which it stood.

Amongst a variety of useful objects which had lately employed the attention of that settlement, was the establishment of a barter with the natives for fish. Such an intercourse had long been desired by the military officers and other inhabitants, and every effort had been made to overcome a shyness in those people, which was suspected to be but too well founded. Fish was by these means at length brought up by them in considerable quantities, particularly a species of mullet which was excellent; and they received for it in exchange, bread, salt provisions, fishing-tackle, and other articles. This intercourse was however broke up by the villainy of some convicts, who destroyed the canoe of a young native, while he was absent at the huts. His rage upon discovering the injury was extreme, and he threatened revenge upon all white people. Accordingly, on meeting a few days afterwards with a poor wretch who had strayed from Paramatta as far as the Flats, he wounded him

in two places with a spear. Three of the persons concerned in destroying the canoe had really been punished, and pains were taken to make the native believe that one of them would be put to death. But nothing could make him relinquish the design of executing with his own hands what he conceived to be justice.

A disposition personally to forgive, and to refer to the social arm the punishment of injuries, on mere principles of abstract justice, is a refinement not to be expected of a savage. But though the natural impulse of resentment is not wholly to be condemned, yet neither could *Ballooderry's* ideas of justice be exactly admitted, and he was warned, that if he appeared again in either of the settlements he would be punished. This affair put an end to the intercourse, at least for a considerable time.

On the 1st of August, the *Matilda*, the first of an expected fleet of transports, arrived, after an extraordinary passage of only four months and five days from Portsmouth. She had on board two hundred and five male convicts, one ensign, one serjeant, one corporal, one drummer, and nineteen privates of the New South Wales corps, together with stores and provisions sufficient for the use of the whole of the above persons, for nine months after their arrival.

Part of these convicts and eleven of the soldiers were immediately sent to Norfolk Island.

On the 20th of the same month the Atlantic transport anchored in the cove. She had sailed from England with two hundred and twenty male convicts, a serjeant and some soldiers, together with supplies. The Salamander arrived next day with one hundred and fifty-five male convicts and a serjeant's party, with provisions and stores. The serjeant had in the course of the voyage deserted. The public ration which had before been curtailed, was now fully restored. On the 28th the William and Ann transport arrived. There being now a considerable number of officers and seamen in the town from the above-mentioned ships, it became a matter of much difficulty to restrain the unlawful introduction of spirituous liquors.

There are acts of malignity for which it would be difficult to assign any principle in the human mind. The canoe of a native who had been paddling round one of the transports and had at last, upon invitation, ventured on board, was wantonly sunk by one of the seamen. The offender was sentenced to a corporal punishment, which was however remitted, but a suit of clothes was awarded as a compensation.

to the natural and manly feelings of the injured party. It must be owned that clothes were a whimsical medium of damages to a savage who went habitually naked. The compensation however was just and laudable though not very appropriate, and the culprit did not escape a degree of punishment, by *him* perhaps thought more severe than the intended one; for he was confined to his ship during the remainder of her stay in port.

Many settlers were by this time fixed on their different allotments, in situations chosen for them with a view to convenience and productiveness. Twelve convicts, whose terms of transportation had expired, were placed in a range of farms at the foot of a hill named Prospect Hill, about four miles west of Paramatta. To this number were soon after added six more. At the Ponds, two miles to the north-east were sixteen settlers. At the Field of Mars, on the north shore near the entrance of the creek leading to Paramatta, lands were assigned to eight settlers (marines); at the creek, to seven. There were besides these settlements some smaller ones in the same neighbourhood. The conditions held out to these persons were that they should be victualled and clothed from the public store for eighteen

months, furnished with tools and implements of husbandry, also with seed grain, and such live stock as could be spared from the public property. They were likewise to have assigned them the services of such number of convicts as the governor should think proper, on their making it appear that they could feed and clothe them.

In these settlements, particularly at Prospect Hill and the Ponds, much inconvenience was found to arise from the usual arrangement of reserving for the crown, a space between every two allotments equal to the largest grant on either side, in consequence of which a thick wood of at least thirty acres usually lay between every two tenements. The most frightful consequences might follow in such a country from the harbour which these covers afforded either to robbers or the savages. During this month information was received, that a much larger party of the latter than was almost ever seen assembled at one place, had destroyed the hut of a settler at Prospect Hill, who would very probably have been killed by them but for the accidental appearance of another settler with a gun. The experience of such alarming incidents, and indeed the natural consequences of the arrangement in question

under such circumstances, determined the governor to depart in many instances from the letter of his instructions upon this head, and make grants of the intermediate spaces.

On the 21st of September his Majesty's ship the *Gorgon* of forty-four guns, commanded by Captain Parker, anchored within the heads of the harbour and next morning reached the settlement. She brought with her a sufficiency of provisions for six months for nine hundred persons; also a quantity of military and naval stores. She had remained some weeks at the Cape of Good Hope, and took in there for the colony three bulls, twenty-three cows, sixty-eight sheep, eleven hogs, some fruit trees, garden seeds, and other articles. About a third of the cattle died on the passage. The chaplain and quarter-master of the New South Wales corps, also Mr. Charles Grimes, commissioned as a deputy-surveyor-general to be employed in Norfolk Island, arrived in this ship.

Mr. King, the late commandant of Norfolk Island, was now appointed by his Majesty lieutenant-governor of that settlement and a commander in the navy.

By the *Gorgon* was received the public seal that was to be affixed to all instruments

drawn in his Majesty's name. In its device, attention had been paid to local and peculiar circumstances. On the obverse were the King's arms, with the royal titles in the margin, on the reverse a representation of persons landing in the colony, who were received by *Industry*, surrounded with merchandize and utensils of agriculture, and pointing to oxen ploughing, a town and fort constructing, and ships in the harbour. In the margin are the words *Sigillum. Nov. Camb. Aust.* and for a motto, *Sic fortis Etruria crevit.* The seal was of silver, its weight forty-six ounces, and the devices very well executed.

On the 26th the Active transport from England and the Queen transport from Ireland, anchored in the cove. On board the Active besides a serjeant's guard, were one hundred and fifty-four male convicts. An officer's party were on board the Queen with one hundred and twenty-six male and twenty-three female convicts and three children. These ships had been unhealthy and had lost some of their number. The sick were landed with all expedition and received immediate medical assistance. The remainder were brought on shore in an emaciated and feeble condition. They in general complained of not receiving

the allowance intended for them. Of this the convicts from the *Queen* made a formal complaint against the master. A legal inquiry took place, and upon all the circumstances being laid before the governor, he determined on transmitting them to England to the secretary of state, as the most advisable step which the nature of the proofs admitted of.

Several more transports arrived about the middle of October. Of these, the *Albemarle* had nearly been taken possession of at sea by the convicts. The attempt was frustrated by Mr. George Bowen, the master, who had just time to seize a loaded blunderbuss and lodge its contents in the shoulder of one of them, then in the act of aiming a blow with a cutlass at the man at the wheel. The others ran below but were speedily secured, and the two ring-leaders, after a short consultation between the ship's company and the military, were hanged at the fore-yard-arm. Two seamen who were proved to have supplied them with instruments for sawing off their irons, were left at the Island of Madeira to be sent prisoners to England.

The different transports having met with many spermaceti whales between Port Jackson and the South Cape, five of them were at the

request of the masters cleared for that fishery, viz. the Mary Ann, Matilda, William and Ann, Salamander and Britannia.

On the 25th of October, the anniversary of his Majesty's accession, upwards of fifty officers were entertained at the governor's table; a much greater number of men of that rank, than the colony had ever before seen assembled together on any similar occasion. The Gorgon fired a salute of one-and-twenty guns.

CHAPTER XV.

Arrival of Lieutenant-Governor Grose.

IN December the marines that had come out at the first planting of the colony, embarked for England on board the Gorgon. The ship sailed on the eighteenth of that month.

On the 14th of February, the signal was made for a sail, and shortly after, the Pitt, Captain Edward Manning, anchored in the cove, from England. She had on board Francis Grose, Esq. lieutenant-governor of the settlement and major-commandant of the New South Wales corps, one company of which together with the adjutant and surgeon's mate, now arrived along with him. She brought out three hundred and nineteen male and forty-nine female convicts, five children and seven free women, with salt provisions sufficient to serve that number of people ten months. She also brought out with her a sloop in pieces, of the burden of forty-one tons. This vessel's keel was immediately laid down, on blocks fixed for the purpose near the landing-place on the east side of the cove; but it was generally

regretted that she had not been put together, coppered, and sent out manned and officered from England. By these means the colony would have received many articles which were necessarily shut out to gain stowage for her.

In the month of March forty-two acres of good land, some miles to the north-west of Paramatta, were sown with Indian corn. This place was called by the natives Toongabee, and still retains that name amongst the settlers. It is now named Wakefield.

In April the foundations of two buildings of importance were laid at Paramatta, a town hall and an hospital. A sort of regular market was also attempted for poultry, fish, grain, vegetables, live stock and any other articles for which there might be a demand.

It will appear extraordinary to the reader, that hand-mills and wooden mortars were, as yet, the only means used in the colony for the preparation of grain.

Friday the thirteenth was a day very painfully distinguished by the death of Mr. David Burton, a young man who, from the various talents he possessed, particularly in botany and surveying, had been considered as a great acquisition to the colony. He had gone out the preceding Saturday with Ensign Beckwith

and a party, to kill ducks upon the Nepean. It is remarkable that he expressed a kind of presentiment of some misfortune. He continued to be tormented with this idea till his gun, by some mismanagement, (for he was not habituated to fire-arms,) went off, and narrowly missed lodging its contents in the body of the person who immediately preceded him through the woods. This it seems he considered as the fulfilment of his prophetic feeling. Having reached however the banks of the river, and being within view of the game, he hastily rested the butt of his piece on the ground amongst the grass and shrubs, in order to elevate himself upon the stump of a tree. It again went off and the contents, entering at his wrist, forced their way between the two bones of his right arm, to the elbow. Mr. Beckwith stopped the effusion of blood with bandages torn from a shirt. The accident happened at five in the afternoon, and it was not till ten o'clock on the night of the following day, that Mr. Burton was brought into Paramatta. Amputation was not deemed advisable with the fever and inflammation that had taken place, and he died of a mortification.

On the 20th of June, at a moment, at which the colony was suffering some distress from a

considerable reduction of the ration, which had taken place in consequence of the low state of the public stores, the general uneasiness was relieved by an arrival, which was the result of the governor's prudent foresight, so long before as the month of October. At that period, recollecting the very alarming and almost desperate state to which the colony had been reduced in June 1790, and the possibility of the recurrence of circumstances equally distressing, he hired the Atlantic transport and dispatched her under the command of Lieutenant Bowen, to Bengal, for provisions. Her arrival now at Sydney produced an universal joy. She brought a very considerable cargo of rice, soujee and dholl. She brought also two bulls and a cow of the diminutive Bengal breed, twenty sheep and twenty goats; also various seeds and plants from the Company's botanical garden. Much acknowledgment was due to Colonel Kydd, the gentleman who superintended the selection and arrangement of these latter for the voyage, as also for Lieutenant Bowen's careful attention to their preservation. But the cargo was far from restoring what might be called plenty to the colony; more especially as part of it was found damaged, particularly the flour or soujee.

On the 26th of July the still welcome signal was made from the look-out, and a few hours after the Britannia storeship anchored in the cove, after a passage of twenty-three weeks from Falmouth. She brought out twelve months clothing for the convicts and an abundant supply of flour, beef and pork.

His Excellency the governor this month thought fit to exercise the power vested in him by his Majesty's commission under the great seal, of remitting either wholly or in part the term for which felons might be transported, by granting an absolute pardon to Elizabeth Perry. This woman came out in the Neptune in 1790, and had married James Ruse a settler. The good conduct of the wife and the industry of the husband, who had for some time supported himself, his wife, a child and two other persons, without assistance from the public store, were the reasons assigned in the instrument which restored her to the rights and privileges of a free woman. This power had hitherto been very sparingly exercised; but those persons who had been the objects of it, were not found to be undeserving. The convicts who came out in the Guardian were emancipated by the King's command.

The Atlantic was now sent to Norfolk

Island with a supply of provisions and twenty-two male convicts, some of whom were artificers, and others professed themselves to have a knowledge of dressing flax, also two settlers who had belonged to the marines, and a free woman wife to one of the convicts.

On the 7th of October the Royal Admiral East-Indiaman commanded by Captain Bond anchored in the cove from England, whence she had sailed on the 30th of May. Her passage from the Cape of Good Hope was particularly rapid, having been performed in five weeks. She brought with her, stores and provisions, one serjeant, one corporal and nineteen privates belonging to the New South Wales corps, also a master-miller, a master-carpenter, and a person professing a knowledge of the cultivation of land as a science, together with two hundred and eighty-nine male and forty-seven female convicts. On the 24th the *Britannia* sailed for the Cape of Good Hope, having been hired by the officers of the New South Wales corps to bring from thence horses, cows, and a variety of articles of comfort and convenience, which the public stores could not afford.

This month closed with a circumstance that excited an unfeigned concern in the settlement.

Governor Phillip signified a determination of quitting his government and returning to England in the Atlantic, which was now come back from Norfolk Island. His declining state of health, and the hopes that the voyage and the return to his native air, with an exemption from the fatigues and anxieties of public duty, might be the means of its restoration, were his motives for adopting this resolution. His Excellency had at the same time the satisfaction of seeing the public grounds wear every appearance of a productive harvest. At Wakefield* the forty-two acres of wheat sown about the middle of March, looked remarkably well. Other wheats, from being six weeks later, did not look so fine or abundant, but still held out hopes of an ample return. The Indian corn was all got into the ground and such of it as was up had a promising appearance.

On the 1st of November the Philadelphia brigantine, Mr. Thomas Patrickson master, anchored in the cove from Philadelphia. It had been suggested to him, that the carrying supplies, chiefly of provisions, to the colony, might prove a good speculation. He accordingly brought a cargo consisting of American

* Toongabbee.

beef, rum, gin, wine, tobacco, pitch and tar. The governor directed the commissary to purchase such part as he thought it most desirable to procure for the colony, and five hundred and sixty-nine barrels of American-cured beef, each barrel containing one hundred and ninety-three pounds, and twenty-seven barrels of pitch and tar were taken into store; the expense of which amounted to two thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine pounds eleven shillings. The adventure was not a disadvantageous one to the American. A great part of the cargo, which was not taken by government, was disposed of to private persons. The governor also hired this vessel to take provisions to Norfolk Island, giving one hundred and fifty pounds for the run.

Some warrants of emancipation now passed the seal of the territory, to certain convicts who had appeared deserving of such a favour, and who now became settlers. Amongst others, Mr. George Barrington of play-house memory, was emancipated, with the restriction only of not returning to England. He also received a grant of thirty acres of land, in a very eligible situation near Paramatta, and was regularly sworn in as a peace officer. He had from the first been treated with a certain confidence by

the governor, who thought he saw a disposition to amendment in him, and he had made himself highly useful in the colony, particularly about Paramatta, in situations in which he had shewn diligence, sobriety and, even, honesty.

On the 18th the Kitty transport anchored in the cove from England, after a tedious passage of thirty-three weeks by Rio Janeiro and the Cape of Good Hope. She had twice sailed from England. On her first departure, having on board thirty female and ten male convicts, she had been obliged to put back to Spithead to stop a leak which she had sprung in her raft port, on which occasion eight of the ten male convicts found means to escape. This was a circumstance to be regretted; for they had been particularly selected as men who might be useful in the colony. Of the two who remained, the one was a brick-maker and the other a joiner. When the cargo was landing it was found to have suffered considerably; the flour in particular was damaged. Of a number of iron pots which had been put on board for the use of the convicts, a great part were either broken or cracked, having been injudiciously stowed amongst the provision-casks in the hold. There arrived in this ship, two chests containing three thousand eight hundred and

seventy ounces of silver in dollars, amounting to one thousand and one pounds sterling. This remittance was sent out to pay artificers and superintendants, to whom an arrear was due. A deficiency of currency had been much felt. When the marines who had become settlers, were discharged, the commissary was obliged to give them notes, which afterwards passed in traffic and answered locally the purposes of money.

The female convicts who arrived in the *Kitty*, were immediately sent to Paramatta.

Government had put on board this transport, a naval agent, for the purpose of seeing that no unnecessary delays were made in the voyage, and that the convicts on board were not oppressed by the master or his people. This officer on his arrival, stated to the governor his opinion that the master had not made the best of his way, and that he had remained longer in the port of Rio Janeiro than there could possibly have been occasion for. He likewise mentioned several disagreements which had occurred between him and the master, in which the latter seemed to think very lightly of the authority of a naval agent on board his ship. There was also in the

same ship a medical gentleman, appointed by government, for the express purpose of attending to such convicts as might be sick during the voyage.

At Paramatta a brick hospital consisting of two wards was finished this month. The spot chosen for this building was at some distance from the main street, and a considerable enclosed space was annexed for the benefit of air and exercise.

At this time the quantity of land, which had been granted to settlers under the seal of the colony, amounted to three thousand four hundred and seventy acres, of which quantity four hundred and seventeen acres and a half were in cultivation, and the timber cleared from part of the remainder. The *public* ground in cultivation at this time amounted to one thousand and twelve acres.

In pursuance of his determination, which we have already mentioned, Governor Phillip was now on the point of quitting the settlement. The accommodations for his Excellency and several officers on their return home, being complete, he embarked on board the *Atlantic* on the 10th of December.

He took with him two of the natives of the

country, also one or two convicts who were recommended to this favour by their good conduct, and many of the productions of the country both animal and vegetable. On the 11th he set sail. It is almost unnecessary to say, that he was not merely attended to the shore with the honours due to his rank, but with the sincere regret of all classes of people.

Mr. Phillip was a man of undeniable merit; at once ardent and firm in the execution of his duty. His faults could scarcely be called such; a quickness of temper, a disposition more peremptory than is absolutely necessary in command, a too punctilious jealousy of station, with manners founded upon these qualities. But if that amenity was wanting, which history has sometimes delighted to paint in the characters of her favourites, he was not essentially harsh or severe. He scorned the display or semblance of that benevolence, of which, it must have been seen in the course of this narrative, that he had such well-founded claims to the reality.

The administration of the colony, in the absence of a governor, now devolved, by his Majesty's letters patent, upon the lieutenant.

governor, and the usual oaths were administered by the judge-advocate.

At this time, the *Hope*, an American ship, from Rhode Island, commanded by Mr. Benjamin Page, put into the cove for wood and water. She had a cargo of spirits and American-cured beef for sale, part of which the lieutenant-governor thought it advisable to purchase. This ship had touched at the Falkland Islands, in order to collect skins from the different American vessels employed there in the seal trade, which article she was to carry to the Chinese market. Her passage from the Cape of Good Hope had been performed in two months and one day. The master said he found the prevailing winds to be from the N.W. and described the weather as the most boisterous he had ever known for such a length of time. A few days after this ship, the *Chesterfield* whaler, an English vessel, put into the cove.

A suffocating closeness of the atmosphere was produced at this time, from the circumstance of the woods and grass having, from whatever cause, been on fire for a considerable extent.

Between the 1st of January and 31st of

December 1792, the diminution of the numbers by death in the colony, was as follows; two persons of the civil department, six soldiers, four hundred and eighteen male convicts, eighteen female convicts and twenty-nine children; two convicts were executed and three lost in the woods; in all four hundred and seventy-eight persons.

CHAPTER XVI.

Allotments of Land to Settlers.

ON the 15th of January a ship was seen from the look-out. In the evening, a large fire was made for the stranger's information. At ten o'clock the following morning, the *Bellona* transport anchored in the cove from England, having on board a cargo of stores and provisions, seventeen female convicts, five settlers with their families, a person of the name of Thorpe, engaged as a master mill-wright at a certain salary, together with a master blacksmith. Amongst other articles, a considerable quantity of wine and spirits were by this ship consigned to the governor, for the purpose of being sold to the officers of the civil and military establishments at prime cost. This measure had been adopted by his Majesty's government for the accommodation of those gentlemen, in consequence of the impositions to which it was found that they were liable both in price and quality, when dependent upon the ordinary means of supply.

The settlers who came out in this transport,

received allotments of land the following month, a few miles from Sydney, in a situation to which they chose to give the name of Liberty Plains. One of them, Thomas Rose, a farmer from Dorsetshire, in consideration of his having brought with him a wife and four children, had one hundred and twenty acres marked out for him ; two others, Webb and Powell, having wives, received eighty acres each ; those who were unmarried, sixty. The conditions under which these persons had engaged to settle were, that their passage should be defrayed by government, that they should be provided with a proper assortment of farming utensils, together with two years' provisions ; their lands to be granted free of expense, the service of a sufficient number of convicts to be assigned them, and the said convicts to be supplied with two years' rations and one year's clothing. An emancipated convict likewise received an allotment in the same neighbourhood, and being a good bricklayer as well as a quiet industrious man, he proved of essential service to them. Allotments of one hundred acres each, were also granted to the clergyman, the principal surgeon, and several military officers ; a permission for the grants to these latter having been just received from Europe.

On the 5th of February the *Bellona* was discharged from government service. Twenty-one days were allowed for the delivery of her cargo ; but by taking off the people from the brick carts and from some other works, she was cleared in a shorter time. This ship was of four hundred and fifty-four tons burden, and was paid by government at the rate of four pounds four shillings per ton per month. The governor was empowered to employ her for the purposes of the colony, should he want her ; but it being found unnecessary to detain her, she sailed on the 19th for Canton.

On the evening of the 24th the signal was made at the south head a little before dark, but too late to be observed at the settlement. At nine o'clock however information was received by the boat, that a ship from Calcutta was at anchor in the lower part of the harbour. In the morning she worked up and anchored just without the cove. She proved to be the *Shah Hormuzear* of about four hundred tons burden, commanded by Mr. Matthew Wright Bampton, from Calcutta, who had embarked some property in her for the colony on private speculation. He had on board when he sailed, one bull, twenty-four cows, two hundred and twenty sheep, one hundred and thirty goats,

five horses and six asses, together with a quantity of beef, flour, rice, wheat, gram, paddy and sugar, a few pipes of wine, a large quantity of spirits, some iron, copper and canvas. In the article of stock Mr. Bampton had been unfortunate. He had lost one horse, three asses, half the sheep, most of the goats and all the horned cattle. This mortality had neither proceeded from the length nor severity of the voyage, which had been performed in something less than eight weeks and in good weather, but was to be ascribed to those animals having been embarked immediately on being taken from the fields, without being kept for some time previously on dry food. The live stock brought by this vessel was purchased by the officers of the colony; the rest of the cargo, the spirits and canvas excepted, was taken by government at the price of nine thousand six hundred and three pounds five shillings and sixpence, and was found to be of the best quality.

On the 12th of March the signal was made at the south head, and at noon the following day, two Spanish ships anchored in the lower part of the main harbour. By an officer who came from one of them to the settlement, the lieutenant-governor was informed, that they

were the *Descuierta* and *Atrevida*, (the *Discovery* and *Intrepid*), the former commanded by Don Alexandro Malaspina, with a broad pendant, as the commander of the expedition, and the latter by Don Josè de Bustamante y Guerra. They had been three years and a half from Europe, on a voyage of discovery and information, and were now arrived from the Manillas, after a passage of ninety-six days, touching in their way at Dusky Bay in New Zealand, from which they had sailed about a fortnight before. Notice had in fact been sent from England so early as the year 1790, of the possible arrival of these ships, together with strict orders that the most friendly attention should be paid to them. On receiving an answer from the lieutenant-governor, they anchored near the mouth of the cove.

“ These ships had visited” (says Colonel
“ Collins) all the Spanish possessions in South
“ America and other parts of the world,
“ ascertaining with precision their boundaries
“ and situations ; gaining much information
“ respecting their customs and manners, their
“ importance to the mother country, their
“ various productions, commercial, agricultural, botanical, and mineral ; for all which
“ purposes, the officers on board appeared to

“ have been selected with the happiest success.
“ They most forcibly reminded us of the unfortunate Count de la Perouse and his followers,
“ of whom these gentlemen had only heard that they were no more, and for whose destiny they expressed a feeling arising from their having traversed the ocean in the same pursuit, and followed in the same path. Equally sincere and polite as Monsieur de la Perouse, the Spanish commodore paid a tribute to the abilities and memory of our circumnavigator Cook, in whose steps the Chevalier Malaspina declared it was a pleasure to follow, as it left him nothing to attend to but to remark the accuracy of his observations. They lost at the Island of Luconia Don Antonio Pineda, a colonel of the Spanish guards, who was charged with that department of the expedition which respected the natural history of the places they visited. They spoke of him in high terms as a man of science and a gentleman, and favoured us with an engraving of the monument which they had caused to be erected over his grave at the place where he died; and from which the following inscription was copied :”

ANTONIO. PINEDA.

TRIBUNO. MILITUM.

VIRTUTE. IN. PATRIAM. BELLO. ARMISQUE. INSIGNI.

NATURÆ. DEMUM. INDEFESSO. SCRUTATORI.

TRIENNI. ARDUO. PERITINERE. ORBIS. EXTREMA. ADIIT.

TELLURIS. VISCERA. PELAGI. ABYSSOS. ANDIUMQUE. CACUMINA. LUSTRANS.

VITÆ. SIMUL. ET. LABORUM. GRAVIUM.

DIEM. SUPREMUM. OBIIT. IN. LUCONIA. PHILLIPICARUM.

VI. CALENDAS. JULII. M. D. C. C. X. C. II.

PRÆMATURAM. OPTIMI. MORTEM.

LUGET. PATRIA. LUGET. FAUNA. LUAGENT. AMICI.

QUI. HOCCE. POSUERE. MONUMENTUM.

“ Having requested permission to erect an
 “ observatory, they chose the point of the cove
 “ on which a brick hut had been built for
 “ Bennillong by Governor Phillip, making use
 “ of the hut to secure their instruments. They
 “ did not profess to be in want of much assist-
 “ ance; but such as they required was furnished
 “ them without any expense; it was indeed
 “ too inconsiderable to become an object of
 “ charge.”

“ The arrival of these strangers, together
 “ with that of the ship from Bengal, gave a
 “ diversity to the dull routine that commonly
 “ prevailed in the town of Sydney; every one
 “ striving to make their abode among us as
 “ chearful as possible, and to convince them,
 “ that though severed from the mother country,
 “ and residing in woods and among savages,
 “ we had not forgotten the hospitalities due to
 “ strangers.”

On the 21st the Kitty, which had been sent to Norfolk Island, arrived with letters from Mr. King, importing that the return of the different sorts of grain and indeed of every other produce, had ensured plenty for a long time to come. The inhabitants were in excellent health, and such had been the effects of the regulations adopted and the attention to enforce them, that for the last three months no offence deserving of punishment had been committed. At the departure of the Kitty he was busied in erecting several useful public buildings, and had completed an excellent house for his own use. Lime, an article in which it was apprehended that the principal settlement would soon feel a distressing deficiency, was now in part supplied from Norfolk Island, where limestone was found in abundance.

In April the Spaniards prepared to depart, after a stay of nearly a month. We resign the task of what remains, in relation to them, to the pen of Colonel Collins, the more so as he describes with a spirit that does honour to him, the harmony between British subjects and that noble nation.

“ The Spanish officers having nearly completed the astronomical observations which the commodore thought it necessary to make

“ in this port, that officer signified his intention
“ of shortly putting to sea on the further pro-
“ secution of the instructions which he had
“ received from his court. Previous to their
“ departure, however, the lieutenant-governor,
“ with the officers of the settlement and of the
“ corps, were entertained first on board the
“ Descuvierta, and the next day on board the
“ Atrevida, the lieutenant-governor being each
“ day received with a salute of nine guns, with
“ the Spanish flag hoisted on the foretopmast-
“ head, being the compliment that is paid in
“ the Spanish service to a lieutenant-general.
“ The dinner was prepared and served up
“ after their own custom, and bore every
“ appearance of having been furnished from a
“ plentiful market. A small cow from Mon-
“ terrey was killed for these entertainments.
“ The healths of our respective sovereigns,
“ being united in one wish, were drank with
“ every token of approbation, under a discharge
“ of cannon ; and ‘ Prosperity to the British
“ ‘ Colonies in New South Wales ’ concluded
“ the ceremonial of each day.

“ The commodore presented the lieutenant-
“ governor with two drawings of this settle-
“ ment, and one of Paramatta, done in Indian
“ ink, by F. Brambila ; together with a number

“ of astronomical observations which had been
“ made by them during their stay. He left
“ a packet with dispatches for the Spanish
“ ambassador at the court of London, to be
“ forwarded by the first ship which should
“ depart hence direct for England; and on the
“ 12th both ships sailed. Their future route
“ was never exactly spoken of by them; but
“ from what the officers occasionally threw
“ out, it appeared that they expected to be in
“ Europe in about fourteen months from their
“ departure. They spoke of visiting the Society
“ and Friendly Islands, and of proceeding
“ again to the coast of South America.

“ As it had been the general wish to render
“ the residence of these strangers among us
“ as pleasant as our situation would allow,
“ we received with great satisfaction the
“ expressions of regret which they testified at
“ their departure, a regret that was at least
“ equally felt on our part. Our society was
“ very small; we could not therefore but sensibly feel the departure of these gentlemen,
“ who united to much scientific knowledge
“ those qualities of the heart which render men
“ amiable in society; and the names of Malaspina, Bustamante, Tova, Espinosa, Concha,
“ Cevallos, Murphy, Robredo, Quintano,

“ Viana, Novales, Bauza, Heencke, Nee, “ Ravenet, and Brambila, were not likely “ to be soon forgotten by the officers of this “ settlement.”

At the close of the evening of the 20th of April, the *Dedalus* storeship anchored in the cove from the north-west coast of America. She left England with a cargo of provisions and stores, for the use of the vessels under the command of that excellent navigator, Captain Vancouver, whom she joined at Nootka Sound. Captain Vancouver, agreeably to his orders from home, dispatched her to the colony with a cargo of live stock, from the coast of America and such islands as she might touch at in her way. She had taken in at Nootka six bulls, twelve cows, and fourteen sheep, and at Otaheite about a hundred hogs, of which stock only four sheep and eighty hogs survived the passage. The loss of the cattle was attributed to their having been put on board without being habituated to confinement and dry food.

Lieutenant Hanson, who commanded the *Dedalus*, had it also in orders, to bring away from New Zealand and carry to the colony, two of the natives, for the purpose of obtaining from them a knowledge of the mode of dressing the flax-plant. In this he had succeeded, and

now brought two to Sydney, just in time to be put on board the *Shah Hormuzear*, which had already weighed anchor for Norfolk Island, with a supply of provisions which Mr. Bampton had contracted with the lieutenant-governor to deliver there.

In the month of May, the people were actively employed at the different settlements in sowing maize and other grain. By a survey made about the latter end of the month, it appeared that the officers to whom lands had been granted, had cleared and cultivated two hundred and thirty-three acres, and had cut down the timber from two hundred and nineteen more. Some of the other settlers had also evinced great activity, and might be pronounced to be advancing fast towards the comfortable situation of independent farmers. The quantity of land granted since the governor's departure, amounted to one thousand five hundred and seventy-five acres, eight hundred and thirty of which, formed a chain of farms between Sydney and Paramatta, by which the country was greatly opened and benefited.

At this time the shyness of the natives was observed to be fast wearing off. It was no uncommon circumstance to see them carrying burdens of fire-wood or buckets of water

through the town, for which services they were usually paid with bread, a food, of which although they had originally appeared to dislike it, they were now become immoderately fond.

In July and August, under the unwearied superintendence of the Reverend Mr. Johnson, a more convenient place of public worship was completed.

The *Dedalus* sailed about this time to rejoin Captain Vancouver, with some provisions that he required from the colony. She was soon to return, being now considered as a colonial vessel, agreeably to the intentions of government. She took with her for the voyage a native of New South Wales.

At this period of our narrative, it will doubtless appear extraordinary, that the Blue Mountains, notwithstanding many attempts for that purpose, should never yet have been reached. An expedition undertaken at this time by Captain Paterson, of the New South Wales corps, whose journies in Africa had already been the subject of printed narratives, was to be numbered with these unsuccessful and, it must be supposed, difficult enterprises. He set out accompanied by Captain Johnston, Mr. Laing the assistant-surgeon, and Mr. Palmer, with attendants, the party taking with

them provisions for six weeks. Boats were sent round to meet them in Broken Bay, whence they got into the Hawkesbury, and the fourth day reached Richmond Hill. Governor Philip's final attempt to explore this river, had been obstructed by a fall of water, past which his boats were too heavy to be dragged. This difficulty Captain Paterson overcame, by quitting his large boats and proceeding with two that were smaller and lighter. In this part of the river, in a space of about ten miles, he met with no less than five water-falls. The navigation was here so intricate, lying sometimes amongst large fragments of rocks that had the appearance of having been borne down by torrents, and at other times impeded by fallen trees, that after one boat had had a plank loosened and the other its bottom forced in, the party gave up any further effort, and was obliged to be satisfied with having proceeded ten miles beyond what had ever before been done. The newly-discovered part of the river they denominated the Grose, and a high peak which they came in view of, they called Harrington Peak.—Captain Paterson in this expedition was very highly gratified as a botanist.—He met in his progress with but few natives, and these he remarked to be nearly

unintelligible to some that accompanied him. The party returned on the 22nd of September.

The sportsmen of England will not easily conceive the *impossibility*, during a space of nearly six years, (reckoning from the first settlement of the colony), of traversing a tract of country of at most sixty miles, whatever might be the obstructions; and when it is considered, that besides amusement, these enterprises had the additional incitements of strong curiosity and ambition of success, the circumstance must appear the more extraordinary.

The town of Sydney had this year increased considerably, not fewer than one hundred and sixty wooden huts, besides five barracks, having been added since the departure of Governor Phillip. Some of these huts were large, and to each of them upwards of fourteen hundred bricks were allowed for a chimney and floor. These buildings extended nearly to the brick-fields, where there was already a village, which was thus in a manner united to the town. Three brick-carts were constantly employed, each drawn by twelve men under the direction of an overseer. Each cart carried seven hundred tiles or three hundred and fifty bricks. To bring in the timber for the barracks and storehouses, four timber-carriages were con-

stantly employed, each drawn by twenty-four men. The colony by this time enjoyed the convenience of a number of passage boats belonging to private persons, and which were permitted to ply between Sydney and Paramatta. A shilling was charged for the passage of one person; luggage was paid for at the rate of one shilling per hundred weight, and an entire boat was six shillings. The accommodation of these boats was very great to individuals, and the profit to the owners considerable.

A short time after Captain Paterson's late expedition, a party of settlers, who were passing within a few miles of Paramatta, with some provisions just received from the stores, were attacked and robbed by a number of the inland or wood natives, some of whom had probably during the Captain's expedition, become acquainted with European food, and had made a favourable report of it to others. It is also thought that they had sufficiently acquainted themselves with the nature of fire-arms, to know on what occasions to make their attacks.

The natives of the coast had now attained such confidence in the inhabitants of Sydney, that they frequently made use of a particular

piece of open ground adjoining the town, for the practice of some of their customs, as if they derived a satisfaction from the colonists' being witnesses of them. In particular cases of injury, it was not unfrequent amongst them, to allow to the injured party, and even to a number of his friends, (probably relations), the privilege of throwing lances at the aggressor; against which he was permitted to defend himself with his shield. Duels also, and combats of several persons of a side, would take place not unfrequently on similar occasions, and it was observed, that mutual esteem rather than rancour, was the prevailing sentiment of the parties, even when these rencounters were attended with great effusion of blood and the most dangerous wounds. The knowledge of the notions of these people, was at this time too imperfect to admit of any very clear idea of the principle of some of these proceedings. The duels were conducted in great form. With these, the advocates for honourable satisfaction, will hardly claim for their favourite system a kindred pedigree; yet like that system at a remote period, they appear to be most probably of a judicial nature.

In the detail of events, for some time, we have not thought it necessary to mark the

arrival of every ship, as in the beginning of our narrative, when such incidents were often of great importance.

The population of the colony was now considerably increased.

The following is a list of this year's mortality.—Two settlers, seven soldiers, seventy-eight male convicts, twenty-six female convicts and twenty-nine children. Of the above persons, one was executed, one was killed by the fall of a tree, two by lightning, six were lost in the woods and one found dead in the woods.

CHAPTER XVII.

New Zealanders.

It may be recollected, that a vessel was brought out in parts by the Pitt for the service of the colony. This vessel, which had been put together and named the Francis, now sailed for Norfolk Island (January 5th, 1794). The last accounts from thence were dated so long before as the month of March. In April supplies had been sent there by the Shah Hormuzear, but as there could be no certainty of their having been safely landed, some anxiety began at this time to prevail with regard to the exact state of that settlement ; though least upon the article of provisions, as at the date of the last letters, it was expected there, that the crops of wheat and maize would produce more grain than would be sufficient for a twelvemonths' consumption of a thousand persons, which was nearly the number upon the island. Some information relating to the settlement, was in fact the only advantage proposed from the present voyage of the Francis : for whatever Mr. King's wants might be, the

stores at Sydney were at this time too low to afford him assistance.

This period was distinguished by the formation of a settlement on the banks of the Hawkesbury, about sixteen miles beyond Paramatta, where there was a richer soil than any that had yet been opened in the colony.

In the township of Paramatta, the disappearance of an old herdsman of the name of Lewis, gave reason to imagine that he had been murdered. It was recollected that he had a short time before, in bad company, inconsiderately suffered some money to be seen which he constantly carried about him. After much and fruitless inquiry and search, a remarkable expedient was resorted to for the ascertaining of the suspected fact. It was proposed to drive the cattle to those parts of the wood, in which he had lately been in the habit of herding them; those who had observed the nature of these animals, imagining that they would by some symptoms indicate the place where the corpse was. This was accordingly executed, and on approaching a particular spot, their snorting and uneasiness led to the examination of a ravine or hollow, where it was found covered with logs, boughs and stones. The wild dogs, by gnawing off both

the hands and the entire flesh of one arm, had rendered still more horrid, the spectacle which the body exhibited on being freed from the load of rubbish that had been heaped upon it.

At Sydney, several gardens and houses were robbed at this time, a circumstance in some degree attributed to the distress attendant on a reduction of the ration, which had now taken place. Amongst others, the hut of a serjeant of the New South Wales corps, who was absent at night on duty, was broken into and robbed of some apparel and several moveables, with twenty-seven pounds in guineas and dollars. The hut stood outermost of a new row in the precincts of the town, and ought not to have been left without some person to take care of it. The plunder no doubt soon passed through several hands.

On the 12th of February, the Francis returned from Norfolk Island, having been absent five weeks and three days. It appeared by information from that settlement, that the Shah Hormuzear and the Chesterfield arrived there on the 2nd of May, and that after landing the stores and provisions, both ships sailed for India, purposing to attempt the passage between New Holland and New Guinea. The accounts respecting every produce of the island, were

highly favourable. By means of the two natives of New Zealand, who had been conveyed there from Sydney, some knowledge had been acquired in the dressing of the flax-plant: but still, as one of them was a warrior and the other a priest, they were less qualified for such a communication than many others would have been; the manufacturing it being confined to the lower classes.

The circumstances relating to these savages are not without interest. The inhabitants of New Zealand are a race of people both very different from, and very superior to, those of New South Wales; vivacious, active, acute, with a knowledge of such useful arts as put them above the state of depending on a casual subsistence. They manufacture their flax and several other substances with much ingenuity, and not only give a regular cultivation to this useful plant, but to some of the native esculent vegetables. They also adopted speedily and with avidity, the use of several European productions, particularly the potatoe, which became, almost as soon as introduced, a favourite food with them. In fishing, their skill in some instances surpasses that of the most civilized nations. It will be read with surprise, that the seines they make use of on their coasts, are

superior both in size and fabric to those of Europe. Their sole covering is a mantle of manufactured flax, or more-frequently of mat, falling from the shoulders to the leg. This they wear only when in a quiescent state; for whenever they enter on any occupation requiring motion or exertion, they throw it off. In their persons they are well made, of a deep olive colour, with handsome features. It has already been mentioned of the two natives in question, that they were captured by Lieutenant Hanson of the *Dedalus*. They had approached the ship with several canoes, in which were their chief and a number of their friends and relations. Notwithstanding the endeavours of these to dissuade them, they ventured on board. The wonders they beheld, (as they afterwards themselves expressed it), *blinded them*. They were in the cabin when the ship began to make sail: but when they perceived the canoes astern, and the rapid separation that was taking place between them and their friends, their frantic agitations can be better conceived than described. It was not till after they had burst the cabin-windows and endeavoured by the most violent struggles to escape overboard, that they gave up the contest. This distressing scene was greatly heightened by the impossi-

bility, by signs and the very small knowledge of any of their words which their captors possessed, of making them comprehend that no hurt was intended them, and that they should one day be restored to their friends and country. On their arrival at Norfolk Island, they were at first sullen, and resolutely withheld any information with respect to the flax-plant. This was afterwards found to be from an apprehension, that they were to be employed as slaves in the manufacturing of it. As soon however as there was a possibility of making them understand, that whenever by their means, the method of dressing it was acquired, they should be carried back to their country, they readily communicated whatever knowledge they had of it. This knowledge however was only such as persons of superior station in any other country, might be supposed to possess of some manufacture to which they had paid a slight attention.

The following are some particulars relating to them, as given by Mr. King. They were both about twenty-four years of age. Hoodoo Cocoti Toamahoui was about five feet eight inches high, of an athletic make, with features nearly European and very expressive. He was related to a chief. He had two wives and

a child, about whom he seemed in a constant state of anxiety. Toogee Teterenuy Waripedo was the son of a chief priest. He was lower in stature than Hoodoo, well limbed, with an aquiline nose, good teeth and an interesting countenance. He often expressed much solicitude about his father and his wife and child. In manners they both far surpassed what might have been expected. There was however a marked distinction in their dispositions. Hoodoo sometimes betrayed the savage, by fits of violence. This was never the case with Toogee, and during any suspension of this latter's uneasiness on account of his friends and family, he was found lively, intelligent and even facetious. From the pains taken by Mr. King and several of the officers and others, during the six months of their detention, to understand their language, and not less by them to understand English, a kind of mixed dialect was the result, which nearly served every wished-for purpose. The thirst of information evinced by Toogee, after he had been in a great degree tranquillized by the assurances given him, would have done credit to an inhabitant of any country; nor was the knowledge that he possessed on many subjects, less surprising. In tracing with a piece of chalk upon the floor of

a room, the form and coasts of the two great islands composing New Zealand, he displayed a geographical knowledge, that might very excusably by the reader be thought incredible. When we consider those islands as perhaps equal in extent to Great Britain and Ireland, we are astonished at such an instance of science in a New Zealander. How many a polished inhabitant of Europe would be wholly incapable of a similar proof of liberal information! His delineation of the northern island in particular, was very conformable to that of Captain Cook. He soon learned the method of drawing it with a pencil. Corrections and additions were occasionally made by him, and the names and boundaries of districts, with various remarks, were taken down from his report. According to him, the northern island was divided into eight parts under the government of their respective chiefs, whom he named. Their wars are frequent and cruel; but they have their intervals of peace, in which they cultivate a commerce in flax, green talc-stone, (of which they make axes and ornaments), nets, mats, cloth and many other articles.—A particular instance of Toogee's accuracy ought not to be omitted. He had been describing a river on the western coast,

which he spoke of as a bar-river, and not navigable to larger vessels than the war-canoes. Mr. King observed, that Captain Cook did not notice any river on the western side of the island, although he had coasted along it. Toogee asked if he had seen an island covered with birds? Gannet Island being pointed out in the map, he immediately fixed on Albatross Point as the situation of the river's mouth, an assertion which Captain Cook's account corroborates, who says, "on the north side of this point, the shore forms a bay in which there appears to be anchorage and shelter for shipping."

Toogee denied that *the whole* of the New Zealanders were canibals. He perceived with great quickness, the light in which the horrid practice was considered by Europeans, and it was with difficulty that he could be drawn to the subject.

The New Zealanders of the superior classes, begin and end the day with a song, which is no doubt the vehicle of poetry. Toogee and Hoodoo, while at Norfolk Island, were sometimes employed for entire evenings upon such compositions, and as it was not unusual for the performance to be interrupted by a flood of tears, they were supposed to have reference to

their actual state.—Toogee always shewed a marked deference to Hoodoo, which was understood to be on account of his relationship to a chief.—Suicide is said to be frequent amongst this people; and it was observed, that whenever the terrible suspicion of being for ever detained from their country, returned upon Hoodoo and Toogee, they were extremely apt to declare an intention of putting an end to their existence. — Their religious notions, though of course mingled with many superstitions, still bear the stamp of the great universal hope of mankind. They suppose that three days after death, the deity, the Eatooa, separates the pure from the perishable part of them and transfers it to the sky.

In fulfilment of his repeated declarations to them, Mr. King prepared at length to restore them to their native country, and resolved to re-conduct them himself. He took the opportunity of engaging for this purpose, the *Britannia*, which was then on its way to Bengal, and had put into Norfolk Island for a supply of provisions and vegetables. He accordingly sailed on the 8th of November 1793, taking with him a party of the New South Wales corps. In four days, having reached and then rounded the north cape, they passed many

huts and a considerable *hippah* or fortified place, on a high round hill, from the neighbourhood of which six large canoes were seen coming towards the ship. As soon as they came within hail, Toogee was known by those in the canoes, which were soon increased to seven, with upwards of twenty men in each. Whether encouraged by the presence and words of their countrymen, or from whatever cause, they came without difficulty alongside and then on board. There were at one time above a hundred New Zealanders in and about the ship. It was observed, that Toogee and Hoodoo addressed themselves only to men of rank or gentlemen, Epodi. To these, at the suggestion of Toogee, who pointed them out, some chissels, hand-axes and other articles equally acceptable, were presented. There was reason to think that rank was discriminated by the mode of tattooing. The *Emoki*, or common people, were treated with the utmost disregard, and often beat unmercifully by their superiors. A considerable barter took place, and a number of patoo-patoos, spears, talc ornaments, paddles, fish-hooks, lines, with a quantity of manufactured flax, were received principally for pieces of iron hoops, or that metal in any shape. The news which Hoodoo

and Toogee learned, was of a mixed nature. Their families and their chief, (for whom they appeared to inquire with equal anxiety), were well; but an irruption had been made by a hostile tribe, by which the son of the chief and thirty warriors had been slain. Toogee's father had been inconsolable for his loss. At seven in the evening the natives retired, and preparations were made to reach the part of the coast to which the two New Zealanders belonged, and which was still twenty-four leagues distant. At nine o'clock, a canoe came alongside with four natives, who belonged more immediately to that part than any who had before entered the ship. They came on board without the least scruple. The master of the *Britannia* being desirous to obtain their canoe, the bargain was soon concluded, with Toogee's assistance, much to the satisfaction of the proprietors, who did not discover the least reluctance to sleep on board, and to be landed as might afterwards be most convenient. The strangers passed the evening with the officers and their countrymen. After supper, Hoodoo demanded of them a more particular account of public events since his departure. The visitors complied by a song, in which each of them took a part. The notes were sometimes

mournful, and sometimes fierce. It related the incursion of the Sandooki tribe into Teerawitti, Hoodoo's country, on which occasion the son of the chief and thirty warriors were slain.

It would seem from this, that amongst these people, narratives upon subjects of public interest, are often a kind of poem adapted to music. The classical antiquary will make his own reflections upon these circumstances. It may perhaps be inquired, in what, and how far, the early poets of Greece and other nations, differed from New Zealanders? Be this as it may, the lyre of Orpheus himself could hardly have had a more potent effect, than the song in question had upon Hoodoo. In the midst of the performance he burst into tears. He was too much affected to hear more, but retired to a corner of the cabin, where he gave himself up to the most violent agitations of grief, which ended with vows of revenge.

The weather was so calm, that scarcely any progress was made during the night. At daylight on the 13th a number of canoes were seen coming from the hippah, which was still in sight. In the largest of these canoes were thirty-six men and a chief. The New Zealanders recognized him to be Kotokoki, the chief in whose territory the hippah was situated.

Hoodoo and Toogee being still at so considerable a distance from home, and the state of the weather being very unfavourable to their reaching it, within the time that Mr. King thought himself justifiable in detaining the ship, he now proposed to them the alternative of returning to Norfolk Island, or of being landed on the part of the coast where they were. They seemed greatly averse to either. A return to Norfolk Island put to an indefinite distance their re-joining their friends and families, and with respect to landing where they were, they had indeed been informed of an amicable understanding between this chief and their own, but were not yet entirely easy on that point, and they observed upon the danger that might ensue to their persons, and the valuable property they had with them, should they be left entirely in his power, with the strong temptation he would have to abuse such a confidence.

Upon his coming on board, which he did without any appearance of apprehension, they seemed to be well known to him. He appeared to be about seventy years of age. His face was elaborately tattooed. They saluted with an embrace in which their noses touched. Mr. King and he were then presented to each other.

After a similar embrace, (*ehonghi*), the chief took off his *ahahoo* or mantle, and put it on Mr. King's shoulders, in return for which Mr. King presented him with a mantle of green baize decorated with broad-arrows. Seven other canoes, with upwards of twenty men and women in each, now came alongside. At the suggestion of Hoodoo and Toogee, the poop was cleared for the use of the chief, and access to it forbidden to any other person without his permission. This arrangement procured for Hoodoo and Toogee themselves, a long conference, in which they no doubt put into the point of view most likely to promote their interest, the events that had taken place, their own recently acquired knowledge and talents, and the stupendous power in arts and arms of their new friends. From this conference they returned with tears of joy and exultation. The chief had given them such assurances of goodwill and protection, as had effectually removed all distrust on their part. They had obtained a promise from him of a safe-conduct to their homes, on the very next morning. Mr. King however was not without anxiety on this point, and now repeated to them their own former apprehensions. To this they both immediately answered, "that a chief never deceived." He

then requested of Kotokoki an interview in his cabin, to which Hoodoo and Toogee should be admitted. Upon the chief's compliance with this request, "I explained to him," says Mr. King, "with the assistance of Toogee, how much I was interested in their getting to *Hododo* (Toogee's residence) and added that in two or three moons I should visit *Hododo*, and if I found Toogee and Hoodoo were safely arrived with their effects, I should return to his, (Kotokoki's), territory, and make him some very considerable presents, in addition to those which I should now give him and his people for their trouble in re-conducting our two friends. I had so much reason to be convinced of the old man's sincerity, that I considered it injurious to threaten him with punishment in case he failed in his engagement. The only answer Kotokoki made, was by putting both his hands to the sides of my head (making me perform the same ceremony) and joining our noses, in which position we remained nearly three minutes, the old chief muttering what I did not understand. After this he went through the same ceremony with our two friends." Mr. King goes on to say that after these demonstrations, Hoodoo

and Toogee made him understand, that they considered the chief in a relation to them not less sacred than that of a father. It may be satisfactory to the reader to know, that this worthy savage, (if we may be allowed the expression), scrupulously made good, in the event, all his engagements.

From the cabin, Mr. King and his guests went upon deck, where a croud of New Zealanders seemed to be in attendance. These Toogee addressed in a strain of animation, not easy for such cold, artificial beings as Europeans, even to conceive, and recounted the wonders that he had seen while away from New Zealand. No doubt he selected, with judgment, those circumstances that were most likely to astonish his countrymen, who every now and then, answered him with a shout of admiration. But when he came to mention, that the scene of these miracles was at the distance of only three days sail from where he was speaking, we must suppose that he observed some symptoms of incredulity in his hearers; for with his characteristic quickness, he ran upon the poop and brought from it a fresh cabbage, which he told them had been cut in the white chief's garden only five days before, and which he presented to them as a proof of

his veracity. Their satisfaction at this confirmation of the fact appeared complete. This curious scene ended by Hoodoo and Toogee's soliciting of Mr. King, an exhibition, the description of which had doubtless formed a part of Toogee's epic narrative, the exercise of the cannon and small-arms. His compliance with this request, as also his departure from New Zealand, Mr. King relates in the following words, " Every thing being now arranged, and
" ready for their departure, our two friends
" requested that Kotokoki might see the
" soldiers exercise and fire. To this I could
" have no objection, as the request came from
" them; but I took that opportunity of
" explaining to the chief, (with Toogee's
" help,) that he might see, by our treatment
" of him and his two countrymen, that it was
" our wish and intention to be good neighbours and friends; that these weapons were
" never used but when we were injured, which
" I hoped would never happen; and that no
" other consideration than the satisfying of his
" curiosity could induce me to shew what
" those instruments were intended for.

" About one hundred and fifty of the New
" Zealanders were seated on the larboard
" side of the deck, and the detachment paraded

“ on the opposite side. After going through
“ the manual, and firing three vollies, two
“ great guns were fired, one loaded with a
“ single ball, and the other with grape-shot,
“ which surprised them greatly, as I made the
“ chief observe the distance at which the shot
“ fell from the ship. The wind had now the
“ appearance of coming from the southward ;
“ and as that wind throws a great surf on the
“ shore, they were anxious to get away.
“ Toogee and Hoodoo took an affectionate
“ leave of every person on board, and made
“ me remember my promise of visiting them
“ again, when they would return to Norfolk
“ Island with their families. The venerable
“ chief, after having taken great pains to
“ pronounce my name, and made me well
“ acquainted with his, got into his canoe and
“ left us. On putting off from the ship, they
“ were saluted with three cheers, which they
“ returned as well as they could, by Toogee’s
“ direction. It was now seven in the morning
“ of the 13th: at nine a breeze came from
“ the north, with which we stood eastward.
“ After a passage of five days from New Zea-
“ land, (having had light winds,) and ten
“ days absence from Norfolk Island, I landed
“ at three o’clock in the afternoon of the
“ 18th.”

CHAPTER XVIII.

*Departure of Lieutenant-Governor Grose.—
The Government devolves upon Captain
Paterson.*

At Sydney, the prospect with regard to subsistence, (March 1794), was become a matter of some anxiety. The state of the salt provisions was extremely low; and to make use of the live-stock to any considerable extent, would have been attended with ruinous consequences to the settlement. The grain and other vegetable produce was become unusually scarce. It was evident, that the speedy arrival of a ship could alone prevent serious distress.

On the 8th however, the signal for a sail was distinguished at the south-head. A boat in waiting, with an officer, agreeably to an arrangement already made, went immediately down. At night it brought the report, that a ship with English colours, had stood into the harbour as far as Middle-head, but meeting with a heavy squall at south, in which she split her fore-topsail, was compelled again to put to sea. Such a sea had run within the Heads,

that the officer who went down, (Captain Johnston), had found it impracticable to board her. With any person on board who had a knowledge of the harbour, she might have been run with ease from the Middle-head into Spring Cove. At night the wind increased, with much rain. A general uneasiness spread itself through the colony: for it was remembered that the Justinian formerly, with a cargo of provisions, after making the north head of the harbour, and being blown off to the northward, was three weeks before she regained it, and was during that time very nearly lost in a gale of wind. Next day, the ship that had been seen, was again to be discerned from the flag-staff, as also another vessel. It was not till the day after, that the wind and weather having both changed, she anchored in the cove. She proved to be the ship William of London, and was followed by the vessel that had been subsequently seen, and which was found to be the Arthur, a small brig of about ninety-five tons, from Bengal.

The William had sailed from London on the 1st of the preceding July, whence she proceeded to Cork, where she took on board eleven hundred and seventy-three barrels of beef and nine hundred and seven of pork, which, at the full

ration, was a sufficient supply of those articles for the colony for four months. She also brought a dressing-mill for flour, a small quantity of iron, two pair of millstones and some smith's tools. The Bengal brig brought a small quantity of beef and pork, some sugar, Bengal rum and coarse calicos.

By the William arrived the Rev. Mr. Marsden, who came as an assistant chaplain to the Rev. Mr. Johnson.

However plentifully the colony might now be supplied with salt provisions, it was miserably deficient in grain. The last remaining rations of wheat were served out on the 17th, (a proper quantity being reserved for seed), and on the next provision day Indian corn was substituted for it. The unripened state of this latter, which made it wholly unfit to grind, was a full proof of the public distress in the article of grain.

It appears that the day on which the William arrived, a corn-mill was set to work at Paramatta. It was worked by capstan-bars, and was the first successful attempt at a mill of any sort in New South Wales. Another, which had been tried some months before, had speedily failed; more from the unseasoned state of the timber, than the want of ingenuity in the mill-

wright, who was a convict.—It will appear some reproach to the spirit of improvement in the colony, that the existence of a mill should date from the sixth year of its settlement.

In the forenoon of the 3rd of April, the signal was made at the south-head for a sail, and about four o'clock the *Dedalus* storeship anchored in the cove from the north-west coast of America. Captain Vancouver returned, by this vessel, most of the provisions which had been sent him from the public stores of the settlement. Lieutenant Hanson on his arrival at Nootka Sound, found that the Captain's ship (the *Discovery*) had sailed. He had however left a letter directing him to follow to another port which he specified. The lieutenant was however so fortunate as to overtake the *Discovery* and *Chatham* armed-tender at sea, and afterwards proceeded with them to the Sandwich Islands. He brought back with him to Sydney, the native he had taken out. He reported him not only to have behaved in a most orderly manner during the voyage, but even to have made himself more useful than the generality of European landsmen would have done.

The day following the arrival of the *Dedalus*, the *Francis* schooner returned from Norfolk

Island, having been absent five weeks and one day. The Rev. Mr. Bayne, chaplain of the New South Wales corps, and Mr. Grimes, the deputy-surveyor of lands, with some other passengers, arrived in her. Mr. King's second crop of Indian corn had been so productive, that he was enabled to make an offer of sending five thousand bushels of that article to Sydney, if required.

The settlement on the banks of the Hawkesbury appeared at this time to be in a thriving state. The soil was in general a rich black mould of great depth. Potatoes in particular were said to come to perfection there with a rapidity unknown in Europe.

In June, the entire amount of the live-stock in the colony, was nine horses, eleven mares, three asses, five hundred and twenty-two goats, five hundred and twenty-six sheep and forty horned cattle.

In June and July, several storeships arrived with abundant supplies, as also some American traders.

The attempt to penetrate and if possible to pass the mountains was at this time renewed. One Henry Hacking, who had formerly belonged to the Sirius, and who was considered as a very active and hardy sportsman, was

fixed upon for the expedition. He accordingly set off properly equipped and provided, and accompanied by one or two other persons. In the attempt to pass this formidable barrier, he failed. He effected however considerably more than any of his predecessors; for he at least reached the mountains, and even penetrated to the extent of several miles. He returned with the account, that new and apparently endless ridges and precipices had obliged him to relinquish the undertaking. He had had a view, and that but momentary, of one human being, who fled at his approach.

Accounts which arrived at this time (August) from Norfolk Island, of the produce of that settlement, exceeded the most sanguine expectations. The surplus quantity was so great, that Mr. King had purchased on the part of government and for the use of the principal settlement, eleven thousand bushels of maize, and it appeared that even this was a quantity very inferior to what might have been spared. The bills on this occasion, to the amount of nearly three thousand pounds, were sent to the lieutenant-governor at Sydney; but here an unfortunate check was given to rising industry, and there being no immediate necessity for the supply, and some doubt occurring of the appro-

bation of government at home for such a step; acceptance was refused. The consequences of the damp that operated on this occasion, were such, that some of the marine settlers in the island, and these had been amongst the most industrious, threw up their farms and enlisted in the New South Wales corps. The lieutenant-governor soon after explained his intentions, with a view to restore the spirits of the settlers, by assuring them that no time should be lost in laying the affair before his Majesty's government, and that in the mean time charge should be taken of the grain, with the responsibility to return the same quantity, in the case of its not being purchased. The effects of this blow were never recovered in Norfolk Island; so that there was always reason to regret the case not having been provided for in time with sufficient clearness, especially as an assurance of the purchase of surplus grain by government, at a reasonable price, might, at least till notice to the contrary, have been fairly deduced from Governor Phillip's declarations at the first settlement of the colony.

There arrived in October four persons from Scotland of the names of Palmer, Muir, Skirving, and Margarot, who had been sentenced to transportation by the High Court of Justi-

ciary for sedition. There arrived also in the same transport, a guard of an ensign and twenty-one privates, of the New South Wales corps. Six of these privates were deserters from other regiments, brought from the Savoy, and one of them was understood to have been tried for mutiny at Quebec. The degree of danger there might be, in making the corps a receptacle of such persons, had no doubt in this instance been considered. The impolicy of it as a system, could, one would imagine, admit of no dispute.

On the 17th the Mercury, an American brig, commanded by Mr. William Barnet, anchored in the cove, from Falkland Islands. He was bound for the north-west coast of America, and landed in New South Wales with a view principally to the recovery of his crew from the scurvy, with which they were greatly afflicted. He gave the gentlemen at Sydney the welcome information, that he had seen at Falkland Islands the officers of the Spanish ship *Descubierta*, from whom he learned that the *Atrevida* was not far distant, and that neither ship had met with loss or accident since their departure from the colony. Having applied to the commodore Malaspina for a supply of biscuit, an article of which he

was greatly in want, and offered him payment for it in whatever mode might be most acceptable, that generous officer supplied him gratuitously with more than the quantity he solicited.

On the 15th of December Lieutenant-Governor Grose embarked on board the *Dedalus* for England, and the administration of the colony devolved on Captain William Paterson, he being the officer next in rank.

CHAPTER XIX.

Arrival of Governor Hunter.

THE Hawkesbury was now found to be subject to very dangerous floods. The fertilization however of the adjacent lands from this cause, was thought to outweigh the disadvantages. In some countries, the ingenuity of man, aided by the experience of ages, is known in such instances to convert a physical evil into the highest benefit. Such precautionary arts may in time be used with the same effect on the banks of the Hawkesbury, and its inundations may become the boast and the wealth of New South Wales. But although this river, from the irregularity of its changes, appears to demand a greater degree of vigilance and contrivance than any other in the world, yet at the period of which we treat, and for years after, nothing can be conceived more improvident than the conduct of the settlers, in erecting their houses and other buildings in unsafe situations, and their thoughtless exposure of cattle, grain and effects, to such disasters.

Whatever estimable qualities may sometimes be discovered in savages, they never fail from time to time, to betray those *black and grained spots* in human nature, which knowledge and the arts of polished life can alone ever wash out. It appears from Colonel Collins's narrative, that about this time, some natives dragged a female of a hostile tribe into the woods, and put her to death with circumstances too horrid to mention. The discovery must have been of course made too late for any effectual interposition.

On the 4th of March the *Britannia*, which had sailed about six months before to the Cape of Good Hope, on a voyage of speculation for some of the civil and military officers of the colony, now returned to Sydney, with a cargo consisting principally of one horse, twenty-nine mares, three fillies and twelve sheep. Eleven mares had died on the passage, from a circumstance already so often noticed, the not having been kept sufficiently long on dry food before they were embarked.

On the 15th when the colony was anxiously expecting an arrival from England, a sail appeared which proved to be the *Fancy* snow, Captain Dell, from New Zealand, and last from Norfolk Island. He had remained at the

former place three months, in the river named by Captain Cook the Thames, and had procured a considerable number of spars for the East India market. In the course of his stay in the Thames, he cut down upwards of two hundred very fine trees of the pine kind, from sixty to one hundred and forty feet in length. In these trees, the turpentine was observed to be conveyed down the centre of the wood; whereas in the Norfolk Island species, it passes between the wood and the bark. The inhabitants were eager to barter their flax for iron.

On the 31st of May the Endeavour, Captain Bampton, of eight hundred tons, from Bombay, arrived in the cove, having on board one hundred and thirty-two head of horned cattle, and a quantity of rice and other articles, that had been contracted for by Lieutenant-Governor Grose. Mr. Bampton had been very successful in his care of the cattle, having lost but one cow in a passage of eleven weeks. After the losses that had so often been suffered on similar occasions from injudicious methods, the management which seems to have been the cause of that success, may not be unworthy of remark. He had ranged them on each side of the gun-deck, fore-and-aft, without confining them to separate stalls, so that they formed a support

to each other. They were well provided with mats and constantly cleaned, and when the ship tacked, they were carefully placed with their heads to windward. They were fed and watered with regularity, and the deck they stood on was well aired by scuttles and wind-sails.

The practices of the natives in the vicinity of Sydney, by which they adjusted their private disputes, and which have been before observed to be, in some instances, duels or affairs of honour, appeared now more than ever to assume that form. Seconds attended the parties, the distance for throwing the lance was marked by them, and the further refinement of having surgical assistance at hand was adopted. These exhibitions collected great numbers of spectators from the town. Any further description, however, than what we have already given, might have been omitted here, but for the appearance at one of these tournaments, of an extraordinary personage, who was said to have come from a distant part of the coast, attracted by the wonders of the settlement, and prompted also, as it appeared, by the ambition of displaying his prowess and skill in arms. This warrior, whose name was Gomaboack, had come under the safe-conduct and good-

faith of some natives who lived to the south of Botany Bay. His professed design was to try the skill and courage of the natives of the neighbourhood of Sydney. He was received by his destined antagonists with respectful firmness. But whatever opinion might be entertained of his intended performances, his stature was certainly too low for that of a hero, for he was in height but five feet three inches. He was, however, by far the most muscular and well-proportioned native that had as yet been seen. His spears were remarkably long, and his shield was large enough to cover his whole body. Man is universally a war animal, and when this formidable champion, whose fame had preceded him, took his ground, the colonists that were present, felt an involuntary interest in the honour of the natives of the settlement. The contest was gallant on both sides. It ended, however, notwithstanding a succession of rencounters, without material injury to any of the parties, and with none to the stranger. The people of Sydney now thought it but justice to praise his martial talents, the strength and muscle of his arm and justness of his eye. Envy, however, was as usual busy with merit, and the Sydney natives, sickening at his praises, whispered their Euro-

pean friends, that *he was a cannibal*; well knowing the horror in which they held such an idea. This knight-errant was re-conducted to his own country by his friends or enemies, who seemed to be not very easy to distinguish from each other, and he is said at last to have died the victim of his passion for fame.

On the 26th of August his Majesty's ship Providence of twenty-eight guns, commanded by Captain Broughton, arrived at Port Jackson from England, which she had left on the 25th of February in company with the Reliance and Supply. On board the Reliance was Governor Hunter, who might therefore be daily expected in the colony.

The Providence met with very bad weather on her passage from the Brazil coast, and was driven a good deal to the northward of Port Jackson into Port Stephens, where she anchored. Here were found and taken on board, in a miserable condition, four convicts, the remainder of five that had run away from the colony in the year 1790, and had lived ever since with the natives. These persons reported, that they had been kindly treated by them, that they had been supplied by them with fish and such other necessities, as were in the power of beings, who were themselves so dependent on a casual sub-

sistence. They accounted for the kindness of this treatment from the superstitious notion which they said prevailed amongst them, that the Europeans were their ancestors come to revisit the earth.

We naturally seize upon every fact which tends to establish the opinion, that man is essentially a religious being. It is almost as certain as any thing founded upon experience can be, that, on a near examination, there is no portion of the human race unimpressed with the idea of a future state; and from this universality, natural religion infers the *truth* of that idea. If it be interwoven in our very nature, or to speak more philosophically, if the constitution of the human mind necessarily leads to it, the belief of it is then as much a divine ordinance as any other law of nature, and it seems reasonable to conclude *that* to be a law of which the *belief* is a law*. It may perhaps be said, that no great credit is in general to be attached to reports such as that we have mentioned. The one in question however seems to admit of little difficulty. That these

* The more decisive proofs founded on revelation, are not the object here. We confine ourselves to the single topic connected with our narrative.

persons were treated with kindness, appears almost from their very existence after such a lapse of time. That they were so treated on a religious principle, seems also well supported. Superstition is the religion of a savage, religion perverted by passion or by fancy. That it was the operating principle in the case before us, is as probable, as it would be otherwise that the natives of New South Wales should act from a refined humanity. We have dwelt the more on these considerations, in consequence of the assertions which have been so roundly made, that no traces of any religious notions have ever been discovered in the natives of New Holland.

On the 7th of September Captain John Hunter, of whom so much mention has been already made, arrived with the appointment of governor of the colony. On the 11th he took upon him the exercise of his authority, his Majesty's commission being publicly read by the judge advocate; on which occasion his Excellency addressed a numerous audience of all descriptions of persons, in a speech expressive of zeal for his Majesty's and the public service, a sacred regard for the interests of all classes of the community, and consequently an inflexible determination to administer the govern-

ment intrusted to him, with justice and impartiality,—sentiments, to which every part of the subsequent conduct of the speaker served as a commentary.

Two officers of the New South Wales corps, also Mr. S. Leeds an assistant-surgeon, and Mr. D. Payne a master boat-builder, arrived with the governor. He also brought with him a small quantity of provisions, a town-clock, and the principal parts of a large windmill.

On the 4th of October the Young William, a storeship, anchored in the cove from England with a cargo of provisions, after a passage of only four months and nine days. She had sailed from Spithead in company with another storeship, the Sovereign, taking her route by the way of Rio Janeiro, where she anchored on the 12th of July, and which she left on the 21st of the same month. Having met with bad weather nearly the whole of her voyage, she had shipped great quantities of water, and being very deeply laden, was considerably strained. About a month afterwards arrived the Sovereign, with provisions. Like the Young William, she touched at Rio Janeiro, and like her had met with very bad weather. From the time of her making the South Cape of New Holland, it was three weeks before she

was able to gain the cove. She brought one settler, a Mr. Kennedy, with his sister and three nieces.

Captain Hunter's administration of the colony, was distinguished soon after his arrival, by a lucky event. The reader will recollect the distressing loss of the cattle, which took place at a very early period of the settlement. A strong hope was now conceived of recovering them, with probably a considerable augmentation of their numbers. The combats of the natives near Sydney, were sometimes attended by parties of the inland or wood savages. From the reports of these, accompanied with very expressive imitations of the roarings and butting of these animals, it was of course inferred that they had seen them. With a view therefore to discover their retreat, two convicts who had been employed to shoot for the officers, set out upon a diligent search, to a part of the country which the savages indicated. On their return, they related that they had seen a herd in a distant part which they described. The circumstance being reported to the governor, he resolved personally to ascertain what he justly conceived to be a matter of no small importance to the colony. Being however particularly occupied by public business,

he determined on dispatching in the mean time Henry Hacking, to the part of the country where the cattle were said to have been seen, with orders if possible to find them and make his report to him upon the fact. Hacking returning from the search confirmed the former statement, and the governor shortly after (November the 18th) set off from Paramatta with Captain Collins, Captain Waterhouse, Mr. Bass, Hacking and the two convicts. The party, under the guidance of these latter, travelled two days S. S. W. and having crossed the Nepean, saw a fine herd of upwards of forty, grazing in a pleasant and fertile pasturage.

The place where this discovery was made, and which appears to have been their principal haunt, is said to have resembled those spots in the most improved countries, where the refinements of art are employed to imitate the happiest effects of nature. Here was found a verdant sward, a graceful inequality of surface and intermixture of trees, shrubs and thickets, with here and there beautiful openings, in which were seen pieces of water covered with ducks, black swans and other fowls, and fringed with various plants and flowers.

The day being far advanced, the party

rested for that night under the shade of the trees and as near as possible to the cattle, hoping in the morning to be gratified again with a sight of them, perhaps with some addition to their numbers. Although they could by no supposition be any other than the cattle in question, yet the governor, in order to have the utmost positive proof of this that could be obtained, gave orders to Hacking and the two other attendants, to endeavour in the morning to get near enough to kill one of the calves, and as the cattle that had been lost were of the Cape breed, an examination as to this point, would he thought leave no possible doubt of the fact he wished to establish. The three men took a station next day with their guns; but while waiting for the passing of the herd, which was now perceived to consist of upwards of sixty, young and old, they were furiously attacked by a bull, which for their own safety they were obliged to kill. This being a full-grown animal, was still better suited to their purpose than a younger one. He was found to have all the distinctive marks of the Cape breed, such as wide-spreading horns, a moderate rising or hump between the shoulders and a short thin tail. The party being seven or eight and thirty miles from Paramatta, could

take with them but a small quantity of the beef. The remainder they were compelled to leave upon the spot to the birds and wild dogs, greatly to the regret of the governor and every one, as fresh meat of every sort was particularly desirable at this time for the use of the hospital. They resolved however to carry away as much as they could, in a return of so great length through the woods. They considered themselves as recompensed for their fatigue, by being enabled to display, as a trophy of their useful success, and which might serve as an earnest of future abundance, the first sample of *forest* beef which the colony had afforded.

The month of November this year, was marked by the introduction into New South Wales, of a printing-press. It was at first employed merely for the convenience of government, in the printing of public acts and documents; but the time could not be far off when books, the pride of mankind in every age, would be its object. New Holland may speedily herself have her poets, historians and philosophers. If hunger, as has been asserted, is the cradle of genius, the colony has not been without its advantages; but the abundance which follows in the train of commerce and liberty, is a much better pledge.

Several native boys, from twelve to fourteen years of age, were at this time living amongst the settlers in the different districts, and were found extremely useful for field labour. The quantity of ground they could hoe in a given time, was greater than what was done by any equal number of convicts. Some of these boys were allowed a ration of provisions from the public stores.

It was about this period calculated, that the produce of the colony in grain, began to be nearly equivalent to its consumption from crop to crop.

The close of this year was distinguished by a meteorological phenomenon. A shower of large pieces of ice passed over the colony in a N.W. direction. It was fortunate indeed that it was not more general, as the mischief it did where it fell, was considerable. The standing wheat was cut to pieces, the large, thick stalks of the Indian corn were broken, many shrubs were destroyed, and trees battered as if by shot. The pieces of ice, after having been long enough on the ground to lose some part of their size, were found to be in general from six to eight inches long and two fingers at least in thickness.

CHAPTER XX.

*Discovery of Coal.—Population.—Live Stock.
—Lands in Cultivation.*

THIS year (1796) was distinguished by the discovery of coal in the colony. The people of a fishing-boat that had come back from a bay near Port Stephens, which is situated about seventy miles to the north of Port Jackson, brought in with them several large pieces, which they had found at no great distance from the beach, on the surface of the ground. Not long after this, there was found southward of Botany Bay, about seven leagues from Point Solander, in the face of a range of steep cliffs washed by the sea, a stratum of coal, in breadth about six feet and extending eight or nine miles along the coast. Near the tops of the precipices were also observed patches of the same substance.

Theatrical amusements will hardly at this period be expected to be enumerated amongst those of Sydney, yet we find that a small play-house was opened for public admission, at

which the representations are said to have been not contemptible.

A drinking mania, as it has been emphatically called, prevailed at this time. The colony had always suffered more or less from this pernicious excess, and its prevention, particularly by the prohibition of distillation, had been a constant object of the different governors and commandants; but it may be doubted, (as was suggested by a military officer of rank, when examined on the affairs of New South Wales before a committee of the House of Commons), whether these methods may not have been in part the cause of the evil complained of. Ebriety, though incorrigible in some individual instances, may perhaps, as a common or general evil, be itself its best cure. The opinion seems founded in human nature, and actual experience is decidedly favourable to it in the instances of those countries that produce wine. The severe, but not too severe, regulation of British law, by which the drunkard is made answerable when sober for his actions when drunk, seems to fulfil what may be expected from legislation on this point.

Mr. Skirving did not long survive his arrival in the colony. He died on the 19th of March. "In the hope" says Colonel Collins "of re-

“ceiving remittances from England, which
“might enable him to proceed with spirit and
“success in farming, of which he appeared to
“have a thorough knowledge, he had pur-
“chased from different persons who had
“ground to sell, about one hundred acres of
“land adjacent to the town of Sydney.” It
appears from the same narrative that the ex-
pected remittances did not arrive. He was
also it seems much mistaken in the productive-
ness of the land purchased. The complaint
which carried him off was a dysentery. Mr.
Muir, who it may be recollected had come to
New South Wales under a similar sentence,
had taken an opportunity of escaping in an
American ship. “He purposed practising,”
says the same writer “at the American bar, as
“an advocate; a point of information which
“he left behind him in a letter. In New
“South Wales he chiefly passed his time in
“literary ease and retirement, living out of the
“town at a little spot of ground which he had
“purchased for the purpose of seclusion.”

The Supply arrived from Norfolk Island on
the 18th of April, after the remarkably short
absence of three weeks and four days. There
arrived on the same day an American, the snow
Susan, from Rhode Island, after a passage as

remarkable for its tediousness, of two hundred and thirty-one days, without having touched at any port. It is said of the hardy navigators of that part of the world, that they sometimes make such voyages on principles of frugality. The excellent health of the crew after so severe a trial, naturally attracted notice. When inquiry was made as to the methods they used for its preservation, they replied that strong exercise, acids in their diet, and fumigations of tobacco between decks, were what they principally relied on. They found at Sydney but a partial sale for their cargo, which consisted of a great variety of articles, and after some stay proceeded to the Canton market. Another American, the *Grand Turk*, from Boston, arrived some time after, having had a passage of five months. Her cargo consisted of wine, spirits, tobacco, soap, iron, linseed oil, broad-cloth and many other articles. That part of it which she was unable to dispose of at Sydney, she carried to Manilla and Canton. In May the *Britannia* storeship arrived from the East Indies, with a cargo of salt provisions and rice procured by order of the presidencies of Calcutta and Madras, on account of government. On private account she brought a supply of Bengal cattle.

The old attempt was now (June) renewed, to explore and if possible to pass the Blue Mountains. The leader of this expedition, Mr. Bass, surgeon of the Reliance, was considered and has since proved himself well calculated for enterprises of intelligence and activity. He was however in this instance baffled, and returned with a report that after innumerable difficulties, having ascended to a great height, he could only descry another apparently impracticable ridge, with intervening woods.

A more easy as well as more agreeable excursion was undertaken by the governor. He had been so pleased with his discovery of the wild herd the preceding year, as well as the country they were found in, that he now indulged in a second expedition of the same kind, intending however to vary it in such manner as to acquire, as far as the time allotted would permit, a further knowledge of those parts. He accordingly set off, accompanied by several gentlemen, with attendants. He was not disappointed in the result. The cattle were found, though not in the same spot, yet not very remote from that in which they had been first seen. The face of the country appeared even more delightful than in the former expedition. The party, by a long

assent, through the most beautifully varied scenes of wood and glade, reached the top of a very high, commanding hill, from which the eye could take in a wide prospect on every side, except that on which it was bounded at no great apparent distance by the impassable mountains. This noble eminence was of a richness of soil to produce some of the largest timber even to the very summit. It received from the party very properly the name of Mount Hunter.

Few occupations could be more agreeable than the exploring the beauties and advantages of this delightful and romantic country, but much important business and the furtherance of a number of highly useful improvements, recalled the attention of the governor to affairs at Sydney.

The bills formerly drawn by certain settlers of Norfolk Island for grain sent to Sydney, and which, as the reader may recollect, were protested by the late lieutenant-governor, were now paid.

We have again to record, towards the close of this year, one of those horrible atrocities which are but too characteristic of man in an uncultivated state. A little native girl of between six and seven years old, had lived for

some time at the governor's, and from her vivacity and docility had become a favourite. She was of a tribe belonging to Broken Bay. Both her parents had been shot with some other savages, in the act of committing some depredation. The child, who was present at the time, and had thus become destitute, was taken to the settlement, and as we have already observed, lived with the governor. A jealousy had been remarked to influence the natives that inhabited the neighbourhood of Sydney towards those of other tribes, whenever they were particularly noticed, or received any kindness from the colonists, whose favour it was evident they themselves aimed at monopolizing. This disposition prompted some of them to watch an opportunity of carrying this child into the woods, and of putting her to death with circumstances of the most horrid barbarity. Pains were taken, but in vain, to catch and bring to the punishment they deserved, the perpetrators of this detestable deed.

The population of the colony of New South Wales, exclusively of Norfolk Island, may at this period be stated at three thousand nine hundred and sixty persons, that of Norfolk Island at eight hundred and ninety.

Land in Cultivation.

	ACRES.
Belonging to government	1700
To the officers civil and military	1172
To settlers	2547

Live Stock.

Horses and Mares	57
Horned cattle	227
Sheep	1531
Goats	1427
Hogs	1869

“ It was satisfactory,” says Colonel Collins,
 “ to those gentlemen who were about to quit
 “ the colony, to reflect that they left it, not
 “ only with a prospect of plenty before it, but
 “ with stores and granaries abundantly filled
 “ at the time. Of these, the judge-advocate*
 “ and the commissary, who had been in the
 “ settlement from its establishment, had wit-
 “ nessed periods of distress and difficulty ; but
 “ they had the gratification of seeing them
 “ fairly surmounted, and the probability of
 “ their ever recurring, thrown to a very great
 “ distance. In the houses of individuals were
 “ to be found most of the comforts and not a

*. Colonel Collins himself.

“ few of the luxuries of life. For these, the
“ colony was indebted to the communications
“ it had had with India, and other parts of the
“ world ; and the former years of famine, toil
“ and difficulty, were now exchanged for years
“ of plenty, ease and pleasure.”

The governor, accompanied by a party of officers, set out in the month of January 1797, upon a tour, with the intention to take a review of the face of the country, and to inspect the state of cultivation at the different out-settlements and farms, as also to examine the soil in some new situations. He first proceeded by land to Broken Bay, where he got on board the colonial schooner, and having sailed up part of the Hawkesbury, continued his progress in boats. At the settlement that had been formed upon the banks of this river, he made an accurate muster, and such regulations as appeared necessary with regard to cultivation, police and other objects.

From the summit of Richmond Hill at noon, he determined its distance from Prospect Hill, where he had directed a smoke to be made. Their bearing by compass, with the respective latitudes of those two points, gave eighteen miles in a direct line.

The country between the Hawkesbury and

Paramatta, he found in general to be extremely good, and the banks of the Nepean, which is a branch or rather a continuation of that river, of an exuberant richness. He fixed upon a site for a new settlement, near a chain of ponds, about two miles and a half from Paramatta, and a body of convicts were ordered to the spot to clear the wood. To this new settlement he gave the name of Portland Place. A bridge was commenced and soon after finished, over a stream in these parts, which from the quantity of wild fowl upon it, bears the name of Duck River.

The colony seemed fated to have its sufferings by fire as well as flood. Conflagrations of woods and fields, of stacks and houses, whether from accidents during dry seasons, or design in the natives or other persons, were not unfrequent, and the governor was an eye-witness during this excursion, to some lamentable occurrences of this kind. At Wakefield he saw a stack, containing eight hundred bushels of wheat, burnt to the ground. Near the same spot, in a field belonging to the government, called the Ninety Acres, where there were several more stacks, the flames were in progress along the stubble, and the surrounding woods

had caught fire even to the very tops of the trees. Night had come on, and there was a high wind. The governor saw that a moment was not to be lost to save, if possible, this valuable stock. By immediate offers of money and *liberty*, he engaged a number of the surrounding spectators to make such exertions during the whole of the night, as finally proved successful. The wind had fortunately abated, and these persons, by beating the burning stubble with bushes as the flames approached, at length got the better of them, but not without much personal injury to themselves, and the risk of still greater. Had not the governor, who was the only person competent to offer such rewards, been fortunately present, the whole would have been inevitably consumed.

It was not long after this, that the deplorable circumstance occurred, of the serjeant-major's daughter miserably perishing in a stubble field, in the midst of the flames that had surrounded her.

The governor now examined, with great attention to the soil and other circumstances, the parts adjacent to the small river named George's River, which runs into Botany Bay. Its banks were already known to be very beautiful, and were now ascertained to be extremely

fertile and well adapted to the purposes of a settlement. It appeared navigable for small craft about twenty miles up.

The natural productions of the colony were justly considered by him as an object of no small interest.—A tree was at this time discovered, which promised to be of considerable future importance, and which indeed could hardly be made use of to better effect than at this very period, when the settlement was in the greatest want of the article it furnished. The bark of this tree when soaked in water and beaten, was found equal in every respect to hemp for cordage. Its height was from fifty to seventy feet, its diameter scarcely a foot. It appeared to be of quick growth.—The general character of the timber of these regions, (with many exceptions however), is hardness, and consequently weight. Many sorts were found to be so heavy as not to float in water.—We have already remarked the birds of this country to be of the greatest variety. Those of the parrot tribe, such as the macaw, cokatoo, lorey, green parrot, and parroquets of different kinds and sizes, are cloathed with the most beautiful plumage that can be conceived. “It would require,” says Governor Hunter, “the pencil of an able limner to give a

“stranger an idea of them, for it is impossible
“by words to describe them.” There are
likewise vast numbers of hawks of various
sizes and colours; also many species of pigeons
and quails, with a great variety of smaller
birds. The emu of New South Wales has the
peculiarity of two feathers growing out of each
quill. This bird was found too swift for
the fleetest dogs, but was not unfrequently
shot. “The flesh was by us,” says Captain
Hunter, “thought delicious; a party of five,
“myself included, dined on a side-bone of it
“most sumptuously.”

It may be observed in general with regard
to the productions of this country, that what-
ever approaches they may make in some
instances to those of other parts of the world,
they are invariably characterized by some spe-
cific distinction. The form and colour of the
crow seems to identify him with that of Europe,
but his note bespeaks him of a different creation.
Captain Hunter dwells on a circumstance, to
which we have already alluded, and from
which it would appear that nature is here
more negligent of the barriers, which in other
parts of the world distinguish and keep asunder
the different species, whether animal or vege-
table. “We have shot birds,” says he, “with

“ the head, neck, and bill of a parrot, and with
“ the same variety of the most beautiful plu-
“ mage on those parts, for which that bird is
“ distinguished here; and a tail and body of a
“ different make and colour, with long, straight
“ and delicate made feet and legs; which is
“ the very reverse of any bird of the parrot
“ kind. I have also seen a bird, with the legs
“ and feet of a parrot, the head and neck made
“ and coloured like the common seagull, and
“ the wings and tail of a hawk. I have like-
“ wise seen trees bearing three different kinds
“ of leaves, and frequently have found others,
“ bearing the leaf of the gum-tree, with the
“ gum exuding, and covered with bark of a
“ different kind.”

A team of oxen, which was now seen drawing a large timber-cart on the road between Sydney and Paramatta, afforded an additional proof of the advancement of the colony. Such carriages had before been drawn by the convicts.

A robbery committed at this time at Sydney, was of a nature so characteristic of genuine profligacy, as to disgust beyond the common order of crimes. The canvas of a windmill was carried away by wretches, who themselves had the daily experience of the importance of

such a public benefit, and had sometimes before been obliged to part with a portion of their ration, in payment to those who ground their wheat for them by hand-mills.

The Supply and Reliance colonial vessels now arrived from the Cape, with a quantity of cattle consisting of fifty-one cows, three bulls, ninety sheep and a few horses.

In the month of September, a boat belonging to government, having been carried out to sea by some desperados, with a view to escape out of the colony, Lieutenant Shortland of the Reliance was dispatched with two armed boats after them. His pursuit failed of its immediate object, but the trouble of it was rewarded by a discovery, which proved afterwards of considerable importance. In searching the coast, at about fifty miles north of Port Jackson, he entered a river, which had been till then concealed by a high rocky island off its mouth. Its entrance was in the shoalest part about three fathom; within, there was deep water and good anchorage. But the most interesting circumstance, was the quantity of coal, of a sort superior to any yet discovered in the colony, which he found upon its banks, in a position which admitted of shipping it with perfect

convenience. Mr. Shortland brought with him a sample of this valuable article. He gave to the river the name of Hunter's River.

Whatever difference of opinion may prevail upon the question of school education, in long-established and well-ordered societies, it cannot admit of a doubt that in one so circumstanced as New South Wales, it becomes an object of the most indispensable necessity. The worthy and benevolent governor, never perhaps appeared in a point of view more truly characteristic of him, than in receiving this year at his house, the visit of one hundred and two children, from three schools belonging to the town of Sydney, prior to the Christmas holidays; inquiring of their masters and mistresses into the progress of their education, hearing them read, and examining specimens of their writing, which he carefully laid by in their presence, for the purpose of comparing them with their performances of the next year.

CHAPTER XXI.

Mr. Bass.—Lieutenant Flinders.

MR. BASS, surgeon of the *Reliance*, returned at the beginning of this year (1798) from an excursion which he had made during the twelve preceding weeks, for the purposes of discovery to the southward. Prompted by his aversion to a life of ease, to which he would otherwise have been compelled while his ship was refitting, he made use of the only resource which presented itself, an open boat, for exploring the coasts even as yet nearly unknown of this vast country, and had with these very slender and perilous means, extended his research as far as Van Dieman's Land. The mere statement of these circumstances bespeaks more honourably than any laboured compliment, that character of enterprise for which this young man (for such he then was) has been since distinguished. Besides many intermediate and interesting discoveries, he succeeded so far as very nearly to ascertain in this expedition, the circumstance of Van Dieman's

Land being separated from the main land by a channel. It was in a subsequent voyage, in company with another spirited young navigator, Lieutenant Flinders, that that point was experimentally proved by him. The channel in question has been named Bass's Straights.

The convicts from Ireland had often been distinguished by a wild and restless spirit, and of this a remarkable instance occurred at this time. Considerable numbers of them projected with great secrecy, an expedition to an imaginary nation, which they had been made to believe existed in the interior of New Holland, at the distance of about four hundred miles. They were to assemble on a certain day in the neighbourhood of Paramatta, to which settlement they principally belonged, with such store of provisions as they could procure, together with written directions and a *paper compass*. Missing this land of promise, they were to proceed to *China*. The governor, notwithstanding their precautions, had full and early information of the plan. Could he have discovered the miscreant who had abused their credulity by the directions and pretended compass, few punishments could have been too severe for him. Whatever might have been his motives, the absurd delusion of which he

was the author or at least the fomentor, might have involved the most fatal consequences to the unhappy dupes of it. But in order to bring such tragi-comic speculations to an end, with as little harshness as possible to these malecontents, the governor adopted a method as ingenious as it was humane. He plainly informed them that their scheme was discovered, and that so far from preventing, he was willing to give them every assistance towards its execution. For this purpose he recommended their electing four of their number, who should proceed to the distant object of their enterprise, and having ascertained the road, should then return and be their guides and conductors to it. He stipulated only, that these precursors should themselves be in the first instance accompanied by three persons, who had been used to traverse the country, and one of whom, of the name of Wilson, had lived much with the natives. To these he added four soldiers with their arms.

It had been hinted to him that without this last precaution, the party might still be much more numerous than had been agreed on, and that it might be further necessary for the safety of the guides. Under these conditions, the four députies were to proceed as far as, and in

what direction, they pleased. His Excellency's proposition was approved by acclamation. The result of this curious undertaking, which was forthwith put into execution as far as human means admitted, was, of course, that after a most fatiguing march and an abundant display of ignorance and obstinacy through a succession of misadventures, the select men were glad, by means of their guides and a real compass, to return to their constituents with the history of their failure.

It has often been observed, that experiments irrational in themselves, have in many instances led to useful discoveries. The guides, on their return, reported their having found several veins and hills of salt situated in a south-west direction. This circumstance was afterwards fully confirmed.

There appeared at this time a greater disposition than had hitherto manifested itself, on the part of free settlers, to come into the colony. Four families that had arrived from England in a ship called the *Barwell*, and were particularly recommended by government, received allotments.—Some of the missionaries who had been at Otaheite and were now in the colony on their return to Europe, were tempted by the amenity, good air and good soil of a situation

about six miles from Paramatta, to settle there.

Benillong, the native who had been taken to England by Governor Phillip, had returned to the colony with Governor Hunter. Unfortunately he happened to be the most ferocious of all the savages that had been seen at the settlement; which made it regretted that the governor had not exercised his discernment, in chusing some other of a happier mould to take with him. After an absence of about three years, Benillong arrived from London with an assortment of acquired morals, such as London could furnish. An affected humanity had not been forgot in his new character. He had been taught to bid his countrymen love one another, and practise universal benevolence. It was observed however that he was careful, immediately to repress any advances to old familiarity on their part. Nature, we are told, returns with irresistible importunity upon whatever mortal dares to repel her. Our accomplished traveller soon appeared in his original colours. It was recollected, that before his visit to England, he had no command over his savage resentments, when thwarted. Not long after his return, his long-checked ferocity broke out with aggravated

violence, and in a kind of fray, the cause of which was never well understood, he ran a lance through the body of a soldier. For this offence he absconded, and in a short time after threw off his clothes and returned to his original state of savage existence. Had Arabanoo lived, many advantages might have accrued, both to the natives and the colony, from his gentleness and docility; or had Coölby, who was taken with Benillong and was understood to be his superior, been detained instead of him, there would agreeably to experience, (even in speaking of savages), have been a better chance of superior morals; for Coölby, as it appeared, was the master and Benillong the slave. However that might be, a more intractable subject than this latter, could scarcely be conceived in nature.

On the 27th of October, the ship *Marquis Cornwallis* arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, with a cargo of cattle on government account, consisting of one hundred and fifty-eight cows and twenty bulls, exclusive of a few on private account. They were in general in very good condition, and promised to be a valuable acquisition to the colony. Part of the cows were a mixed breed between the English and Cape cattle, and the whole

appeared to be under the age of two years and a half.

This month the foundation of a stone building intended for a church was laid at Sydney. It was to be one hundred and fifty feet in length and fifty-two in breadth. Preparations were making for a similar building of smaller dimensions at Paramatta.

Soon after Mr. Bass's adventurous expedition to the southward, Lieutenant Flinders and he, as has been already noticed, were sent out on a second one in the same direction. They embarked for this purpose in the Norfolk sloop, a vessel which had been built in Norfolk Island. From this expedition they returned to Sydney on the 12th of January 1799, after an absence of some months, which they had employed with indefatigable diligence in exploring the coast. But the most memorable result of their voyage, was the complete knowledge obtained, of the existence of a streight separating Van Dieman's Land from the rest of New Holland, and which, although termed a streight, is of nearly the breadth of the British Channel. The island of Van Dieman's Land may, speaking at a guess, be compared in size to Ireland, but is of a broader shape from east to west. From its having been colonized a few

years after the time of which we treat, it deserves here a more particular attention. When Lieutenant Flinders and Mr. Bass had penetrated nearly half-way through the streight, along the north shore of the island, they found themselves carried with great impetuosity, by a strong flood-tide, into a very fine harbour. In this harbour, since named Port Dalrymple, a considerable and rapid river discharges itself. At its supposed source, there are some very high mountains, which diverge so as to form the sides of a triangle, of which the coast is the base. Through the centre of this triangle flows the river. The mountains diminish in height as they approach the shore. The climate is of a happy temperature, the soil in general good, and in some parts luxuriant. The country is not so universally covered with forest as New Holland in general, but is often so thin of trees that the pasture, which is excellent, suffers nothing from their shade. The natives seem to be of a race even inferior to the natives at Sydney. No canoes were seen in this part. The various circumstances of this port and river, admirably adapted as they seemed to be to the purposes of a colony, induced the gentlemen who conducted the expedition, to employ sixteen days in the examination of them.

On the 3rd day of May his Majesty's ship *Buffalo* arrived from England, but last from the Cape of Good Hope, whence she brought sixty-six head of cattle in excellent condition, a circumstance attributable to the care of Mr. William Raven her commander, formerly of the *Britannia*, whose important services to the colony on various occasions were remembered and justly estimated by all ranks of people there. This ship brought out likewise, various tools and many articles of hardware, for the use of the settlement.

Although named the *Buffalo*, yet the head of this vessel was the carved figure of a kangaroo, a circumstance that seemed not a little to strike the fancy of the natives, to whose country it was an unexpected compliment.

Independently of the wild herds, the live-stock, belonging both to the crown and to individuals, was annually increasing to a great amount; but it was by no means yet sufficiently considerable to admit of supplying the colony with animal food. To kill them for this purpose at too early a period, would have greatly retarded the time when the colony might look to be independent of any other country for provisions. Accordingly no cattle but superfluous males were at this time slaughtered.

On the 2nd of June the *Diana* and *Eliza* whalers came in to refit. They had each procured about twenty-five tons of spermaceti oil, and had spoke the *Britannia*, which had been more successful, having one hundred and ten tons of oil on board.

About this time the *Indispensable*, a ship which had been careened and completely repaired in the cove, sailed on a fishing voyage.

It appeared from experience, that ships resorting to New South Wales upon the whale fishery, and properly fitted for the variable weather they were liable to meet with upon the coast, would most certainly succeed. The ships however that had in general arrived, were not prepared for the weather of that ocean, but were fitted rather for the more serene skies of the coast of Peru; which occasioned their so frequently running into port to refit. It might be worth the attention of those British houses that employ ships in the fishery in question, whether they might not derive great advantage from the establishment of a *depôt* or warehouse at Sydney, well supplied with naval stores, where their business could be transacted by their own people and their ships refitted with their own materials.

On the 29th of June, arrived the ship *Albion* from England with stores. The very short space of time in which she performed her voyage, attracted much observation from those who were considered as judges of nautical performances, the voyage having been only of three months and fifteen days. To such of our readers, some account of this vessel may not be indifferent. She was perfectly new from the yard of Messrs. Barnard and Roberts at Deptford, where she was built.

	Fest. Inches.
The length of her keel for tonnage	86 0
Her extreme breadth	27 6
Her depth in hold	12 0
Her height between decks	6 0
Her admeasured burthen	362 tons.

She was remarkably clean in her run, and although extremely deep in the water when she sailed from Spithead gave early proof of her sailing powers. By the orders of her owners, she was to give the whale fishery upon the coast of New Holland a fair trial, and was very fully provided with every necessary for that purpose.

An atrocious murder was committed at this time upon a Mr. S. Clode a missionary, who was one of those that had come from Otaheite.

Of this murder three persons were convicted, a soldier of the name of Thomas Jones, also his wife, and one Albury a free man. Jones, as it appeared upon the trial, was indebted to the deceased in the sum of ten pounds, for payment of which he, Jones, had appointed him to call at his house, where the unfortunate and unsuspecting Mr. Clode, while in the act of drawing out a receipt, had his brains knocked out with an axe and his head nearly severed from his body. The three criminals were executed on the spot where the murder was committed, and the house was pulled down and burnt. The bodies of the men were hung in chains, that of the woman given for dissection.

The governor at this time renewed his favourite excursion to the Cow Pasture Plains, taking with him not only several gentlemen and attendants but some of the natives. He crossed the Nepean further north than before, and made his way along the banks of that river. They fell in with a herd not far from the usual place. They remarked on this occasion the excessive ferocity of these animals, several of which they would have been obliged to shoot, but for the stout diversion made in their favour by the dogs. The fact of this

particular breed of cattle being from the Cape of Good Hope, in a great degree explains this circumstance: for the Cape cattle are known to have a mixture of the wild bull of the southern parts of Africa, an animal which may perhaps be affirmed to be the most ferocious of any upon that whole continent, and with which the lion alone contends. From the extraordinary agility with which the natives climbed up the trees on this occasion, it was observed with satisfaction, that they entertained great terror of a bull. Had they been aware of the power they possessed, by surrounding him in parties, and making use of their formidable lances against him, the increase of the wild herds might have been greatly checked: but this was a discovery, or rather a degree of skill and intrepidity, which they had not attained to.— In this expedition a bull-calf which had been held by the dogs, afforded the party a luxurious repast.

Two of the settlers at the Hawkesbury, having been at this time, upon strong provocation, as is imagined, killed by the natives and their arms taken, some of the other settlers, prompted by a blind resentment, determined to revenge their death. Three native boys, who lived with three of them, declared that they

thought they could recover the guns that had been taken. They were accordingly sent out for that purpose, and in some time brought them in. What share this circumstance may have had in raising the suspicions of the settlers, and producing the event that followed, it might be difficult to determine. No fair inference of guilt on the part of the boys, could be deduced from it. The settlers however took them into a barn, and after pinioning, repeatedly stabbed them. Two of them fell, and died under their hands. The third, making his escape, leaped into the river, and, although in swimming he could only make use of his feet and was several times fired at, reached the opposite bank where he joined his countrymen. The three settlers were by the criminal court found *guilty of killing two natives*. Of the point of law in the case before them the court entertained doubts, but applied to the governor for information. He accordingly laid before them the article of his Majesty's instructions, which placed the natives under the protection of British law. The point however appearing to them still doubtful, the result was the transmitting the case to ministers, and the admission of the culprits to bail. It may be imagined what notion of *bail* the savages of New South Wales

could have, or be capable of acquiring. It is certain that their seeing the persons in question at large, was a cause of great irritation. They threatened in consequence of it, to burn the harvest of the settlers, a thing which was well known to be in their power, but which there was fortunately a sufficient interval of time to dissuade them from.

In February, Captain Waterhouse, in a sporting excursion which he made to Broken Bay, wounded and brought in an eagle of uncommon size and of a species thought to be till then unknown. It was said to stand about three feet high. It shortly after so far recovered its strength as to escape.

In the month of April, two men were found guilty of robbery and a woman of forgery. To the woman the governor extended his Majesty's pardon. The men were taken with their coffins to the place of execution, where the warrant was read and every appearance observed, that could give solemnity to the moment and impress the minds of the spectators with awe. The ropes being put about their necks, the provost marshal unexpectedly produced their pardon. One of them seemed much affected. The other afforded a novel case in the history of grievances. This object of mis-

taken clemency bitterly lamented the circumstance, declaring that he never could hope again to have his mind so well prepared for death as on that occasion.

In the month of June, the *Belle Savage*, an American ship, ran into Neutral Cove for a few days, simply to wood and water.

On the 29th Major Foveaux, of the New South Wales corps, sailed in the *Hunter* for Norfolk Island, to take the command at that settlement.

In the month of August the *Albion* whaler ran into Broken Bay, to complete her wood and water. She had on board six hundred barrels of oil, but had not been able, through bad weather, to secure more than a fourth part of the whales which had been killed. An immense number had been seen.

The time now approached, at which it was the intention of the governor, to withdraw from the duties of the situation he had filled with so much honour to himself and advantage to the colony, and it may be truly averred that that event was looked to with universal regret.

The improvements that had taken place during his administration, were manifested in a great variety of useful, and in some instances ornamental, public works, and were the result of an unremitting attention and activity. Many

of those works, such as roads, mills, granaries, houses and places of public worship, were wholly new, and there were few of the former buildings which did not receive from him a complete repair. We have already noticed his attention to the important object of education. In this he was particularly successful, and put it on such a footing of progressive improvement, as ensured those advantages that have subsequently resulted from it. It may also be observed, that his government of the colony had been exempt from faction and cabal, a felicity of no small moment in a settlement so circumstanced.

The following statement of the live stock and lands in cultivation, at the departure of the governor, will put into a strong light the advancement of the colony in these particulars.

Land in cultivation.

	ACRES.
Wheat	4665
Maize	2980
Barley	82

Live Stock.

Horses	60
Mares	148
Bulls and oxen	352
Cows	712
Hogs	4017
Sheep	6124
Goats	2182

The above calculations are exclusive of Norfolk Island and the wild herds.

His Excellency's embarkation for England took place in October, on board the Buffalo. He was attended to the ship's boat with every mark of the most unfeigned attachment from all classes. The ship sailed on the 21st.

Captain King, whom we have already mentioned so often, in the course of this narrative, succeeded Governor Hunter in the administration of the colony.

CHAPTER XXII.

Prices.—Currency.—Sydney Gazette.

AT the beginning of the year 1801, his Majesty's sloop Investigator was fitted out, for the express purpose of completing the discovery of the coasts of New Holland. She was of three hundred and thirty-four tons burthen, and built nearly in the manner recommended by Captain Cook for voyages of discovery. The command of her was given to Lieutenant Flinders, who was on the occasion promoted to the rank of commander. He was to be accompanied by a naturalist and a professed gardener, and had it particularly in his instructions to make a collection of the most curious plants, for the royal gardens in England; for which purpose he was ordered, as soon as he should arrive at Sydney, to construct a *plant cabin* on his deck, agreeably to a model of one that had already been used with success for similar purposes. He sailed in the month of July.

It is gratifying to have to relate, that prior to the departure of this vessel, a passport was

transmitted from the French minister of marine, by which the Investigator was secured from all hostile interruption, in her useful research.— This generous measure, calculated to moralize a state of war, and render it a contest of liberal sentiment and of benefits to mankind, met with the acknowledgments and return it merited. Immediate instructions were given by the British Admiralty to Captain Flinders, to act towards all French ships, “as if no war “existed between the two nations.”

On the 17th of January, a smart shock of an earthquake was felt in the colony. The affrighted inhabitants of Sydney fled from their houses into the streets and open grounds, in momentary expectation of universal destruction. There ensued however none of the terrible consequences apprehended.

On the 2nd of March there was a most destructive inundation of the Hawkesbury. The settlers on its banks, seemed as much at a loss as ever, to guard against the effects of such calamities. The river on this occasion rose seventy feet above its usual level. Flocks and herds and houses were carried away, and one settler lost his life. Yet it was not without some warning, that these distressing circumstances took place. It has been observed with

respect to this river, that a change of colour and turbid state of the water, even before there is any perceptible swell, is always an indication of the coming mischief, and might serve to guard a settler against a surprise, and enable him to save his moveable property.

The inquiries into the natural productions of the colony, had not up to this time, been as diligent and extensive as might have been expected, in a country in which all was absolutely new, even, as is observed by Captain Flinders, to the very grass under the foot of the settler.—The acquisition as to timber, which seemed most valued, was a species of cedar, produced about Broken Bay and along many parts of the coast.—The bark of a tree was discovered, perfectly adapted to the purposes of tanning.—Of native fruits, a cherry, insipid in comparison of the European sorts, was found true to the singularity which characterizes every New South Wales production, the stone being on the outside of the fruit.—A species of currant, green in its state of maturity, afforded an excellent jelly.—A white clay of a very fine sort, perfectly well adapted to pottery and probably to various other manufactures, also a black substance resembling that which is made use of for pencils, (and improperly

called black lead), were found here. This latter however differs from *plumbago*, (the substance used in pencils), inasmuch as it appears to have no admixture of iron. Being equally free from zinc, it is not the *carbure de zinc* of Lavoisier. Neither is it *molybdæna*; for it contains neither the peculiar acid of that substance nor sulphur. It agrees with *plumbago* in colour, unctuousity, resistance to all acids, and several of its other properties. Upon the whole, it appears to be a species of *plumbago*, in a state of purity from metal, hitherto unknown in any specimen of that substance.—It has already been remarked, that coal was found in various parts of the colony; it also appears beyond a doubt that iron exists there in great abundance.

The prices of commodities in the settlement, at any period, it would not be easy to state with precision, as the uncertain and continually varying nature of the currency, would almost inevitably mislead both the reader and the writer on that point. Sometimes a particular commodity supplied the place of a currency, or was rather itself a kind of currency. It is a thing known, that at Sydney, ardent spirits were at some periods so much a medium of

trade, as almost to be considered in the light of money.

With regard to some of the market regulations which have taken place at different times, it might be presumptuous to say positively, how far they were necessary or otherwise in such a colony as that of New South Wales; but certainly many of those regulations have borne a strong family resemblance to those absurd notions, by which trade was for ages harrassed and the human understanding disgraced in Europe, especially in whatever was connected with the cry of individual monopoly. It may be, however, that principles demonstrably pernicious, as applied to any European country, have been found otherwise on so confined a theatre as that of an infant colony.

On the 3rd of July a person was executed for forgery, a crime to which there were at this time frequent temptations, from the circumstance of drafts of every description passing so generally at market, as a medium of trade.

The same mental fever which had prevailed amongst the Irish convicts a few years before, again shewed itself, (at the beginning of 1802), with the same violence, but without

that co-operation which we have seen in the former instance. They universally indulged the chimera, that some interior nation or nations existed, which might afford them the means of bettering their condition. Several parties, in the hope of such discoveries, perished miserably or returned in a famished state.

The Blue Mountains still remained the same invincible barrier as before. Many were the attempts to pass them. Amongst the various enterprises of this kind, is to be numbered that of Monsieur Barrallier, an ensign in the New South Wales corps. Better success was augured from French vivacity; but although Monsieur Barrallier was acknowledged to have effected more in this instance than any other person, yet he failed of his object, with all the rest.


An occurrence of a singular nature happened about this time, which we shall give in the words of a Mr. Mann, who published an account of the colony a few years since:—"In the month of September, a culprit who had been convicted of a burglary, was three times suspended: the rope first broke in a very singular manner in the middle, and the suffering criminal fell prostrate on the

“ ground; on the second attempt, the cord
“ unrove at the fastening, and he again came
“ to the ground; a third trial was attended
“ with no better success, for at the moment
“ when he was launched off, the cord again
“ snapped in two. Mr. Smyth, the provost-
“ marshal, taking compassion on his protracted
“ sufferings, stayed the further progress of the
“ execution, and rode immediately to the
“ governor, to whom he feelingly represented
“ these extraordinary circumstances, and his
“ Excellency was pleased to extend his Ma-
“ jesty’s mercy.—The same person was after-
“ wards transported to another settlement, in
“ consequence of his continuance in his dis-
“ honest career, and has subsequently lost his
“ life on the coast, in making an attempt to
“ escape from the colony.”

It would be difficult not to approve, though perhaps involuntarily, the departure from rigid justice, which gave this miserable wretch the benefit of so extraordinary a casualty.

On the 5th of March 1803 was instituted at Sydney, by authority, a newspaper entitled *The Sydney Gazette or New South Wales Advertiser*. Besides being in a manner necessary for the promulgation of the acts of government,

this publication has been found a great source of information and rational amusement, to the settlers and other inhabitants, having been conducted not only with an attention to good morals, but in many instances with no small degree of original talent.



CHAPTER XXIII.

Van Dieman's Land.

WE are now approaching a period of great interest in the history of the colony. The climate, soil and various circumstances of Van Dieman's Land, held out a temptation to the further extension of the British settlements, which was scarcely to be resisted.

The advantages which suggested themselves from such a measure, we will not say were greater than those which the principal settlement afforded; but in some respects, this part of New Holland had an evident superiority over it. Not that it could be advisable, (although such a project had certainly been considered), to remove the principal settlement; but the plan of colonizing Van Dieman's Land, appears for many reasons to have been highly judicious. It is about six degrees of latitude south of Sydney, its climate more moderate, its soil richer, its harbours numerous and excellent, its rivers not inconsiderable. To say which country was upon the whole most advan-

tageous to colonize, might be difficult, but the very differences that existed between them, held out a prospect of great reciprocal advantage. The unfavourable circumstances to which Norfolk Island was subject, and of which the reader is already apprised, were also a strong and leading motive to such a measure; and the gradual abandonment of that island was a part of the plan in question.

It was not till the 19th of February 1804, that Colonel Collins disembarked on the southern coast of Van Dieman's Land, with a detachment of military and some settlers and convicts, for the purpose of establishing a colony. On this part of the coast, a deep and broad river disembogues itself in an extensive and commodious bay, to which it comes round from the west with a bending course. That course however does not appear to be of any very great extent. The Derwent, which is the name that has been assigned it, is one of those quiet and sleepy streams, which scarcely convey to the senses the idea of motion. Its banks are of the most varied description; sometimes grotesquely rocky, sometimes shaded with the most beautiful natural groves, and here and there consisting of the most luxuriant meadow land. The bay into which it flows is named

Storm Bay. The spot chosen for the first settlement, was on the western shore of the river's mouth, and named Hobart Town.

To return to the affairs of Sydney.—A settlement named Castle Hill between Paramatta and the Hawkesbury, now became the centre of a conspiracy, that had been carried on with great secrecy, and which might have involved the most fatal consequences, had not prompt and vigorous measures been pursued on its first discovery. As it was impossible under such circumstances to divine how far such a spirit might have extended itself, the governor immediately declared martial law throughout the colony. A large body of insurgents were openly collected at the above rendezvous on the 4th of March. There were at that time at Castle Hill more convicts employed in public labour than in any other part of the colony. Their numbers may have amounted to upwards of four hundred. There was afterwards reason to think that many more were ready to join them at the Hawkesbury settlement. The explosion of this conspiracy was sudden and unexpected. The conspirators had collected one hundred and thirty-six stand of arms, besides pistols, pikes, reaping-hooks tied to poles, and various other such weapons. They

advanced towards Paramatta in two bodies, one of about one hundred and sixty and the other of about two hundred. On the first intimation of this affair, Colonel (then Major) Johnston marched against them from headquarters, (sixteen miles), with a party of less than forty men. His taking with him a force so much smaller than he might have done, appears not easy to be accounted for, on any other principle than that of great apprehension of a rising in the other settlements, and co-operation with the insurgents. On the colonel's approach, they retired from the neighbourhood of Paramatta, with the intention apparently of making a stand at the distance of a few miles. He followed them with not more than twenty-four men, having judged it necessary to detach a party to take possession of Castle Hill, in order to secure from the possibility of destruction the great quantity of corn that was there in stacks, and which the circumstances of the colony at that time, rendered of essential importance. The insurgents took a position on the side of a hill, about nine miles from Paramatta. On the colonel's coming up, a fire commenced, which soon had the usual issue of a contest between regulars and a banditti. It lasted about fifteen minutes, when the latter

were dispersed. They left sixteen dead. Twelve were wounded and thirty made prisoners, amongst whom were some of the most guilty. The rest, seeing that nothing but famine could be the consequence of resistance, soon gave up their arms and returned to their labour. Five were executed. It was afterwards ascertained, that many more were unquestionably disposed to join these insurgents, had they met with immediate success.

A regular settlement was about this period formed at Hunter's River, now more usually called the Coal River, about fifty miles north of Port Jackson; this place having become of much importance, from the considerable and increasing trade that had taken place to it, for coals and cedar. The settlement was named King's Town, and the circumjacent country, Newcastle District.

On the 15th of October 1804, Lieutenant Governor Paterson sailed from Sydney to Port Dalrymple, for the purpose of colonizing that part of Van Dieman's Land. This port, situated in the streight between Van Dieman's Land and the main land, has been already described.

Van Dieman's Land was at this time divided into two counties, Buckinghamshire and

Cornwall, between which the parallel of 42° south latitude was made the boundary.

The part of New South Wales, north of Sydney, and in which King's Town, (already mentioned), was situated, received the appellation of Northumberland. The boundary fixed on to divide it from Cumberland, was the parallel of $33^{\circ} 2'$ south latitude.

The reader will have observed, that the history with which we present him, is of a different complexion from those more important narratives, which usually bear that name. We profess to deal but little, or rather not at all, in battles, sieges, treaties, debates in parliaments or the splendor of courts. We have turned our ear, we may say even sedulously, from the sound both of war and of faction, pleased in diverting our imagination to a secluded portion of the world, in which there seems an excuse for naming neither. The domestic occurrences, the active exertions, the struggles almost for existence, those things that bring us back with so natural an interest to our original wants and the first principles of social dependence, (though comparatively having a relation only to very simple objects), we conceive to be not without their charm. We think that there is in colo-

nization, more to call out the native energies and real character of the human mind, than in any other possible combination of circumstances.—We have already made mention of a New South Wales newspaper. As the object we have proposed to ourselves, has been to give, by whatever means, just local impressions of the colony of which we treat, and as we think a periodical publication better calculated for such a purpose, than almost any connected narrative could be, we hope that a series of extracts from that newspaper, will not be unacceptable to the reader.—We prepare ourselves in some degree for the slight which may be thrown on common occurrences, and sometimes even mere advertisements; but if the generality of our readers should feel as we do, as to the effect of this mode of information, they will perhaps not think any historical arrangement of these materials necessary.

*Sydney Gazette ; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
March 16th, 1806.*

To be Sold by Public Auction,

By Mr. David Bevan,

At the Freemasons' Arms, Paramatta. On Monday, the 24th of March instant at ten in the forenoon, if not previously disposed of by Private Contract, a valuable thirty-acre Farm at Prospect, 26 clear, and six years out of cultivation; beautifully adapted to stock, being well watered, and rich in pasturage, and known by the name of Martin's Farm. Also, Two handsome chesnut Geldings, the property of a gentleman.

To be Sold by Private Contract, Ten head of beautiful Bengalspotted Deer, the property of a private gentleman. For reference apply to George Howe.

STOLEN.

On Saturday night, from an out-house belonging to Richard Atkins, Esq. in Barrack Row, a large Steel Mill with two handles, no spout or hopper, and totally out of repair. Any person giving information relative thereto will receive twenty shillings reward.

The rains at the latter end of last week, violent as they were, fortunately had not that evil tendency at Hawkesbury, the probability of which was a most unpleasant theme for the imagination. —The rise in the river on Saturday the 1st instant, was very alarming; and the more so from the deluges of rain that fell the whole day, and part of the night. On the following morning, the banks were no longer considered as a barrier to the impetuous torrent, which seemed to threaten universal desolation. In

the course of Sunday the fresh in the river abated; but during the last heavy rains once more resumed a menacing appearance, which happily went off without any new damage to the settlement. The loss sustained on the low grounds from those floods is estimated at 6000 bushels of maize, which can be but ill spared, owing to the bad success of the last wheat harvest, and other casualties the grain has met with during the last year, from the uncommon weather. A valuable chaise and cart left by Mr. Edward Robinson below the Green Hills, on the day previous to the flood, were both carried away, supposed to be irrecoverably lost.

On Friday Mr. James Squires, settler and brewer, waited on his Excellency at Government House, with two vines of hops taken from his own grounds. On a vine from a last year's cutting were numbers of very fine bunches; and upon a two year's old cutting the clusters, mostly ripe, were innumerable, in weight supposed to yield at least a pound and a half, and of a most exquisite flavour. As a public recompence for the unremitted attention shewn by the grower in bringing this valuable plant to such a high degree of perfection, his Excellency has directed a cow to be given to Mr. Squires from the government herd. The properties of this valuable plant strongly recommend its culture, to which several of our colonists have applied themselves with laudable and unremitting perseverance. Its excellence in the brewery of malt liquors, and its efficacy in their preservation is not, as is generally supposed, confined

solely to the flower, but as every leaf and stem participates the virtue of the flower in a certain proportion, so may all the parts that are in a healthy state be applied to various useful purposes, when carefully gathered. No leaves should be taken but such as are young, whole, and green; and none but the tips of healthy young sprigs, that are full of juice, which should be dried in a clean and airy place. These would be found very serviceable in the brewery of small or table beer, to which the leaves and sprigs of the hops give additional strength, render it wholesome as well as palatable, and preserve it for a much longer time. In damp and cold weather they may be rendered highly beneficial to cattle that may chance to be sickly from colds: an excellent cordial may be prepared for them by infusing the leaves and sprigs in boiling water, and mixing the liquor with their common drink.

On Friday evening a beautiful green snake made its appearance on a summer-house, and was attacked by a young man, who after throwing several stones at it, while at a distance, at length ventured to go nearer, always opposing himself to its retreat. Smarting with the pain of several blows, and enraged at the opposition, the snake at length coiled himself up suddenly, and sprung at his assailant, whose terrors in all probability saved his life; as, from an irresistible impulse, he fortunately prostrated himself at the instant that the reptile assumed an offensive attitude, and by this involuntary *faint* escaped the resentment he had provoked.

March 23rd.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Those male and female prisoners who remain under sentence of the law, and have been indulged with permission to get their own maintenance on tickets of leave, and who have not appeared according

to the order of the 3rd instant, will be put to government labour if they do not give their names in, on or before the 31st instant, when tickets of leave will be given to those whom the governor may consider deserving a continuance of that indulgence.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Acting Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
March 15th, 1806.

Commissary's Office,
March 15, 1816.

Every person having public claims on government are to give them in to me on or before the 10th of April next, that they may be finally settled by the 20th, for the quarter ending the 31st instant.—No claims that are made after the 20th of April will be attended to.

By command of his Excellency,
J. PALMER, Commissary.

GENERAL ORDERS.

The muster of prisoners off the stores with, and assigned to, individuals, which was to have taken place at Hawkesbury, on Tuesday the 25th instant, on account of the high floods is deferred until Wednesday the 2nd of April, when that description are required to attend according to the tenor of the general order of the 15th instant. Officers, superintendants, settlers, and others who have the labour of prisoners victualled from the stores assigned to them, are required to furnish me with their names, ships they came in, place where tried, and age, on or before Monday, the 31st instant; on neglect whereof, the prisoners so assigned will be ordered to public labour.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Acting Sec.

NOTICE.

The following ordinance of the 8th of May 1801, and general order of the 17th of May 1802, are repeated and required to be duly observed and enforced: viz.

It is hereby ordered, that no other than one quality of wheaten bread is to be made throughout the colony, viz. such bread to be composed of meal, from which only twenty-four pounds of bran are to be taken from one hundred pounds. As this regulation is necessary to prevent a distressing scarcity, any inhabitant or person resident in the colony, disobeying this ordinance, will be punished according to their respective situations, exclusive of the penalty of five pounds for each offence. Bakers of any description disobeying any part of this ordinance will, on conviction, have their ovens taken down, and be fined in the penalty of ten pounds for each offence.

NEW SOUTH WALES CORPS.

The committee of paymastership will consolidate their pay notes for this quarter, on the first day of April next, at Major Johnston's barrack. All persons holding their notes for any of the preceding quarters are requested to bring them in to be consolidated.

NOTICE.

A quantity of very fine acorns being saved from the government garden at Sydney, individuals desirous of cultivating one of the most valuable sorts of European timber, will send their names to the secretary's office, where the gardener will have instructions to supply those who may be approved.

ROAD COMMITTEE.

The gentlemen composing the committee for repairing the roads and bridges leading from Sydney to Hawkesbury, are requested to meet at Paramatta, on Thursday next, the 27th instant.

G. BLAXCELL, Treasurer.

SHIP NEWS.

On Saturday arrived the *Sophia*, Captain Forest, with 64 tons of oil.

Last Tuesday came in the Governor Hunter, with coals and cedar from Newcastle.

Sailed on Thursday, the brig *Venus* for the southward. The ship *Star* is expected to sail this day, to fish off New Zealand. The *Tellicherry* is expected to sail for China in the course of the present week, and the American ship *Favorite*, Captain Paddock, will sail shortly for China. The *Venus* yesterday reached the Heads of Broken Bay, on her way to Hawkesbury, but was obliged to return on account of the extreme velocity of the current, occasioned by the unfortunate overflow of that river.

A letter to his Excellency from Thomas Arndell, Esq. at Hawkesbury, dated Saturday morning, six o'clock, contains the following very unpleasant information:—"I am extremely sorry to acquaint your Excellency that the flood is now approaching to a very dangerous height, and the settlers, in consequence, repairing to the high grounds as fast as they can be brought off. I forbear dwelling on a recital that will be so truly painful to your Excellency's feelings; and I beg to assure you, that every exertion shall be used that may be serviceable, and frequent information forwarded to your Excellency so long as messengers can pass."

This advice also mentions, that the waters were not then quite so high as in the heavy flood of March 1801, on the second day of which month Mr. Stoddell lost his life in attempting to swim his horse over a hollow about three miles from Hawkesbury, the animal also perishing with his rider.—From the continuance of the rains the whole of yesterday and last night, with but little intermission, bad consequences are to be apprehended.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

with immediate possession,

An excellent Dwelling House, in Serjeant Major's Row, containing three rooms, a good kitchen and wash-house, the whole weather-boarded, shingled and glazed; with excellent garden containing many fine fruit trees, a good well and every other convenience; the property and in the occupation of William Hall, of whom particulars may be had on the premises.

WANTED.

A steady man to work in a kitchen garden: liberal wages will be given. Apply to G. Howe.

W. BARNFILL,

Taylor, Habit, and Staymaker,
Back Row, East,

Begs respectfully to assure the public that their commands shall be complied with in the best style possible, at a short notice, and moderate charges.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

That desirable situation, known by the name of Patulla Gardens, situate on the eastern side of the Brickfield Hill, comprising two acres and a half of good garden ground, with upwards of one hundred bearing fruit trees, some apricots, apple, quince and fig-trees, &c. all fenced in with six and seven feet paling; with cottage thereon, and frame of a new building, a good well, and every other convenience for rearing stock, upwards of five hundred head of poultry having been reared on the premises within ten months. For further particulars inquire of Margaret K. Silk; to J. W. Lancashire, or on the premises.

N.B. Credit, on approved security, will be given for one half the payment.

We understand from Mr. Squires that he has made actual experiment of his hops in brewing, and that their excellence very far exceeds his most flattering expectation, their

flavor and quality being in no single degree inferior to the best imported samples.

To the Printer of the Sydney Gazette.
Sir,

Being, from my profession, much interested in the prices and attainment of serviceable leather, I, in homely terms, beg leave to offer my opinions on this subject, important not to the craft alone, but to the public at large. It is, perhaps, unnecessary that I should occupy a moment of your reader's leisure by entering upon the subject of tanning, in order ultimately to assert, as my own opinion, that it has arrived to an admirable degree of perfection here, since ocular demonstration will at once convince any person of the fact who may be desirous of such an inquiry. When it is minutely considered, then, that the leather made in the colony is not liable to duty, and that the whole of the expense in producing leather is comprised in the purchase of the skin, and the cost of labour and materials requisite to the process, it appears somewhat unaccountable that the boot and shoemakers' charges should bear so excessive an advance upon the real English prices, for, that this is the case, it would be an insult to the understanding to deny.

I venture a hope, however, that no one will hastily attribute these excesses to our unfortunate fraternity (though I respectfully beg their pardon for so objectionable an appellation), without acquainting himself with the probable causes, which I shall endeavour to explain. —The fitness of the kangaroo skin for upper leathers, will no doubt obtain preference over most of the imported leather, as it is in general lighter and equally durable, at the same time that in the hands of finished workmen, no objection would be admissible on the score of neatness and fashion. Of this kind of leather we have abundance, and at all events sufficient to supply the wants

of these settlements, but unfortunately the scarcity of hides prevents us from benefiting by this abundance; and in consequence of that scarcity the high prices demanded of the tanner for the few green hides that are procurable, are almost tantamount to a prohibition of the use of sole leather tanned here, and must be accepted as a principal cause of our present rates of charge. Among the rich investments that here find a ready market, we should have been excessively at a loss had we not received supplies of sole leather from the mother country; but very unfortunately for us and for the public, these supplies have been hampered with a far greater than even an equivalent proportion of skins, of which, although we had already a sufficient stock on hand, we must make purchase in order to obtain that which we are in actual want of; and to the poor tradesman, compelled to purchase at a second or third hand, whose charges must nevertheless keep pace with those who can take advantage of a cheaper market, the profits of his labour are not such as to excite the envy of any other tradesman. The rapid increase and flourishing state of the cattle and other stock of this colony, presents the prospect of resources whose benefits will be great and general; but without pretension to any further knowledge than that of my own profession, I cannot help ascribing to the latter cause assigned the chief evil, and to hope, that should these observations fall into the hands of gentlemen inclined to favour us with a supply of leather, they may give a preference to the hide, as this kind we principally stand in need of.

With yourself I remain,
the public's most respectful servant,
CRISPINIUS.

—
March 30th.

NOTICE.

Judge Advocate's Office,
March 8th, 1806.

The civil court will assemble at

Sydney, on Tuesday, the first day of April next, for final dispatch of business; of which all persons who are or may be concerned, are required to take due notice.

R. ATKINS, Judge-Advocate.

BENCH OF MAGISTRATES.

Saturday, March 29th.

A seaman named Hunt, belonging to the *Tellicherry*, was brought before the bench on a charge of absenting himself from the vessel with intention to desert her. He was apprehended near Paramatta by several constables in search of three others who had deserted some time before, and said his only motive for leaving the ship was to visit an acquaintance at Paramatta, from whence he intended to return the following day, having no complaint whatever to make of his captain or officers.—Ordered into the gaol gang till further orders.

Hawkesbury, March 27th.

The extensive damage done by the flood cannot yet thoroughly be ascertained, though it is known that many individuals have lost every thing they possessed, and that several have perished in the deluge, which was never before known to arrive to so great a height by from eight to ten feet. What rendered its progress still more destructive, was a false notion of security which many had imbibed, from the supposed confidence that there never would be another heavy flood in the main river, though without assigning any cause for such an idea, to which the recent alarms seemed to give a colour, as each succeeding fresh had abated without any damage, save that sustained from the overflow of the South Creek. The first appearance of this distressing inundation was observable on Thursday, the 20th instant; the river, discoloured, having risen several feet above the high water mark. The settlers on the low grounds, known from former doleful experience to be subject to

disaster, were now preparing for the consequences; but in the course of the night the rise abated, and by the next morning apprehension had totally subsided. The incessant rains on Friday and Saturday night gave a new turn to expectation, and by day-light on Saturday morning a scene of horror presented itself in every quarter. It was by this time nearly as high as on the 2nd of March, 1801; many farms were then under water, the rain continued without intermission, and a rapid rise was in consequence observable. The measures adopted by Thomas Arndell, Esq. for the preservation of lives, were actively carried into execution by Mr. Thompson, chief constable, who, in one of his boats, saved the lives of a hundred persons, whom he took from the tops of houses, and rafts of straw floating on the deluge. He had two more boats employed in the same humane work, and by means of them also a number of lives were saved. Mr. Thomas Biggers, often at the risk of his own life, saved upwards of one hundred and fifty men, women, and children; and others who possessed boats, particularly the district constables, were very active in this benevolent duty. In the course of this dreadful day upwards of two hundred wheat stacks were swept into the stream, and carried down the river with incredible velocity: stock of all descriptions were seen floating about, and on the tops of the stacks, but could not be saved for want of boats, those of Messrs. Thompson, Biggers, and others, being constantly employed in taking the settlers' families from the roofs and ridges of the houses, where many had for whole hours clung, despairing of assistance, and expecting to be swept into the watery waste. Towards Richmond Hill it seemed to abate on Saturday evening; down the river it still rose.—The distress and horror of that evening can neither be described or imagined.—The day heavy and gloomy, the night fast approaching,

torrents of rain pouring with unabating fury, and not a house, except at the Green Hills, to be seen, the roofs of one or two of the highest on the opposite side of the water being then only visible. Muskets were discharged by the settlers from trees and roofs all day, and great numbers had been taken up, and left in safety on the higher grounds; but many were devoted to undergo a night of horror the most inexpressible: in the evening the dismal cries from distant quarters, the report of fire-arms dangerously charged, in order to increase the noise of explosion; the howling of dogs that had, by swimming, got into trees, all concurred to shock the feelings of the few that were out of the reach, but were sorrowful spectators of the calamity they could not relieve. On Sunday morning the rigour of the weather abated, and in the course of the day the water on the high lands shewed a disposition to run off. Nearly three hundred persons, saved from the deluge by the humane perseverance and incredible exertions of their rescuers, were released from a state of actual famine by a supply sent from the Green Hills, in consequence of his Excellency's request to Mr. Arndell to afford the sufferers every assistance and relief. Five persons are known at present to have lost their lives, one of whom was a labourer at Richmond; the others at Chalker's Farm, viz. Walter Scott, a shoemaker, who has left a large family to deplore his destiny, and James Burns, with two women, one the wife of Benjamin Coolon, the other the wife of J. Crowan. Three of these unfortunate persons had taken shelter in Chalker's house, there hoping safety; but, alas! except in very high situations indeed, all seemed alike devoted, and security was nowhere to be found. Chalker was in turn compelled to fly for safety; and taking to his boat with a boy five years of age, and the above three, by fatal accident the boat upset, and these latter instantly

perished. The child was the first object of Chalker's care, as an endeavour to save any of the others must have failed, and been at the same time fatal to himself, as the distance he had to swim was little short of a mile. The child, at his desire, threw his arms about his neck, and instead of giving way to terror, endeavoured to embarrass his preserver as little as possible, and occasionally to cheer him with the assurance that they were almost out of danger. Among some other wonderful escapes was that of William Leeson, settler, who with his mother, wife, and two children, and three men, was carried from his farm upon a barley mow. They were driven by the impetuous current nearly seven miles, and were taken off in the dark by Richard Wallis, with the greatest difficulty. The amount of stock lost must indeed be serious and considerable, though a quantity of different kinds was picked up, after the settlers, with wives and children, were removed from danger. Many of the stacks of wheat and barley that were floated off were forced by the current into the ocean; upwards of sixty were seen by one observer to clear Cumberland Reach, and twenty were seen by two lime-burners in a very short space of time, drifting towards Pitwater, where they had but little obstruction to encounter: upon some of these were many pigs, dogs, and prodigious quantities of poultry, a great many of which took flight and got to land as they occasionally approached the banks. By Wednesday, about noon, the water had fallen about twelve feet, but none of the grounds about the back farms were at all fordable. Many of the stacks that had broke loose have been secured; indeed, nothing but the activity of the officers of government, and the readiness with which their commands were generally executed, could leave one single hope to the inundated settlements, which had no other appearance than that of an immense sheet of water;

and although distress was visible in every countenance, and universal horror prevailed, yet could there be found beings so destitute of the common feelings of humanity as to refuse their aid in preserving the lives and property of the unhappy sufferers. This inhuman conduct was immediately represented to his Excellency by the Rev. Mr. Marsden and Thomas Arndell, Esq. who were on Thursday joined by C. Throsby, Esq. with eight constables, and in consequence of their representation his Excellency was pleased immediately to issue a general order to render what was of itself so criminal to refuse,—assistance at a juncture, when not only lives and property, but the welfare and very subsistence of the whole colony was at stake. On Wednesday and Thursday one hundred and twenty-five labourers, from the public works at Paramatta and Castle Hill, were sent under their overseer, together with twenty-seven volunteer soldiers, to give every assistance the magistrates might direct, in saving as much wheat and growing maize as possible, by drying the former, and pulling and shelling the latter. The road between Hawkesbury and Paramatta was also in a dreadful state of flood, no communication being practicable but along the elevated grounds, occasioning a prodigious circuit: the race ground was nearly covered, and the Ponds, the foot of Lapstone Hill, and various other parts of the road were not at all fordable. Much apprehension was entertained for the fate of the settlers on the Nepean; from whence some satisfactory intelligence has been received, but no certain accounts of the extent of losses at that place or the Hawkesbury, can, as yet be depended on; yet it is sufficiently obvious, that but little short of the present destruction of private property in those settlements is the consequence of this uncommon flood, which, however, like those of the Nile, may conduce to the abundance of future crops.

On Monday last all the government labourers in Sydney were sent on board the ship *Sydney*, now lying in the cove, to clear her of the oil and seal skins she had taken on board, and with which she was to have sailed about this period for England, if the news had not arrived by the *Star* of the *Lady Barlow* being seized by the Hon. East India Company in England; government having contracted for the *Sydney's* proceeding direct to Calcutta for a quantity of wheat or rice, to answer the exigencies of the next year; and as the present season is the most favourable for that voyage, her return may be looked for in seven months at farthest.

At such a crisis as the present every man must feel it his duty to endeavour, by every means in his power, to lessen the effects of the more than apparent scarcity, owing to the very great loss of grain which the colony has at the present moment of misfortune to regret. Well-timed industry may yet soften its rigours, which will be more sensibly felt three months hence than at present; and though our once chief dependence no longer exist, yet perseverance and economy may blunt the edge of threatened scarcity, and industry ensure us a perpetual harvest. —Attention to the culture of the garden becomes our universal duty; and he who most assiduously applies himself to that object, best discharges his obligations to society, and acquits himself to his family. For real usefulness, at this season it is unnecessary to say, that the turnip, carrot, and cabbage recommend themselves; but in the whole vegetable variety no single exceptionable species can be named, as all are profitable. As an incentive to proper attention to an object of such public importance as that of meeting disappointment and increasing our means of subsistence, it is worthy of mention, upon the authority of a serjeant in the New South Wales Corps, that during the last

pea season an industrious man, who was not an experienced gardener, cleared from a spot of ground, not exceeding six rods, the almost incredible amount of fifteen pounds, ten shillings, by selling his pease generally at a shilling a quart, shelled.

SIXTY GUINEAS REWARD.

Captain Curzons, of the ship *Tellichery*, will pay the above reward to any person or persons apprehending, or causing to be apprehended, the following

SEAMEN,

Deserters from his said ship; or, a reward of

Twenty Guineas

for each and either of the said deserters, as soon as they shall be delivered into safe custody, viz.

William Brown,

about 5 feet 5 inches high, and dark complexion;

Charles Hogan,

same height, pale complexion, and light hair; and

Francis Villiers,

about 5 feet 9 inches high, dark complexion, much resembling a Portuguese, long black hair tied, and marked with the small-pox.

Any person harbouring any of the said deserters will be prosecuted by Captain Curzons, or by his agent, in case of his absence; if apprehended after the ship's departure, they will be sent as prisoners on board any of his Majesty's vessels for England, exclusive of the corporal punishment decreed by the general orders of April 1st, 1805.

SHIP NEWS.

On Friday arrived the *Venus*, Chace, with 5000 skins.

Sailed on Tuesday the *Star*, Captain Bjerney, to fish off the coast of New Zealand.

Two out of the three seamen that have deserted from the *Tellichery*, have added to the crime of desertion the much more odious and unpardon-

able crime of ingratitude. These men left families behind them, without any other dependence for support than a liberal allowance of two pounds ten shillings per month, the payment of which was secured to them until the return of the ship.—The consequence is, that independent of every other charge Captain Curzons may have against these men, the monthly maintenance to their families must still continue, until advices to the contrary shall be received, which will be a considerable length of time. More than ordinary suspicion of their concealment attaches to a settler, who should rather aid in apprehending any delinquent than assist him in the commission of his crime; and the gratitude of the man who would thus infamously abuse the generosity that provided for the support of his children, while necessarily absent, and therefore incapable of supporting them himself, cannot surely be depended on, nor even his constancy in withholding for a moment the information requisite to bring his concealer to condign punishment, in hopes to save himself.

Joseph Smallsalts, a prisoner for life, was on Tuesday last brought before the judge-advocate, charged with having uttered expressions of an inflammatory and seditious tendency, highly disrespectful to his Majesty's government, and with intention to disturb the tranquillity of this colony.—The facts alleged being clearly substantiated upon oath, the offender was ordered one hundred lashes, (which punishment was inflicted accordingly), and sent to public labour at the coal mines at Newcastle. He was permitted to travel to Hawkesbury, in custody of a constable, to arrange his affairs preparatory to his being embarked for Newcastle, with a label on his back, on which Thomas Paine was written in large characters, the culprit having declared that "he would be worse than Tom Paine, if thwarted." As an aggravation

of the offence, must be considered the lenity that has for several years past been shewn to him, in being permitted, in the first instance, to become a settler, and in the many indulgencies he has received at various times from government.

TO BE LET, and entered on at pleasure,

A Farm of one hundred acres, thirty clear; pleasantly situate at Seven Hills, and well adapted to stock, from the luxuriance of pasturage. For reference to the advertiser, apply to G. Howe.

NOTICE.

In order to ascertain losses as nearly as possible, and the present situation of the agricultural settlement and people at Hawkesbury, as well as those in other parts of the colony, his Excellency is pleased to appoint the Rev. Mr. Marsden, T. Arndell, and Nicholas Bayly, Esquires, assisted by the chief and other constables of that district, to make the strictest inquiry into these objects, to which every person throughout the settlements are requested to give the fullest information and assistance, if required. From the appearance of an uncommon scarcity of grain, occasioned by the distressing inundation with which it hath pleased the Divine Will to visit this colony, the governor hopes that every individual, possessed of a garden, will apply their whole attention and that of their family, to raising as much vegetables as possible, and particularly turnips, carrots, and cabbage, for which the present season is most favourable. It is equally incumbent on the settlers and all other cultivators, to sow at least half an acre of turnip seed, as the produce will sooner be obtained than any other vegetable, and be a great resource to their families. As there is reason to apprehend that all or most of the seed wheat belonging to the Hawkesbury settlers is destroyed, the governor recommends those who are out of the reach of floods, and have

a reserve, to distribute a proportion to their known industrious neighbours, who cannot make a better use of it than by drilling it, which will take but a fourth of the seed, and be equally or more productive, and at which the labour of women and children can be usefully employed. To those individuals who have resources of wheat or other grain, the governor recommends the utmost care being taken of it from the depredations of the idle; and that they will use the utmost economy in its application and distribution. And, in consequence of the destructive losses occasioned by the inundation at Hawkesbury, his Excellency has judged it expedient to direct the commissary to receive storeable wheat from those who owe government debts, and who have it to spare, at fifteen shillings, barley at eight, and maize at six shillings a bushel.—To those who owe no government debts, wheat at twelve, good barley at seven, and maize at six shillings a bushel. The private bakers at Sydney and Paramatta are directed to attend a bench of magistrates which will be assembled on Wednesday next.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Acting Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
March 6th, 1806.

J. Pullen, owner of a small house in the Brickfields, stood charged with having permitted a seditious conversation in his house, and keeping it secret; and also with having censured and abused two witnesses who had voluntarily stepped forward as the accusers of Smallsalts.—He was an old man, and but for the latter part of the charge would not have been brought forward; yet such an aggravation requiring to be noticed, he was ordered to gaol, there to remain until he should find security for his good behaviour for the term of one year, himself in 50*l*. and two sureties in 25*l*. each.

May 4th.

NOTICE.

Captain Abbott being sworn in as a magistrate for the county of Cumberland, is to be obeyed and respected as such.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Acting Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
April 30th, 1806.

TO BE LET, and entered on immediately,

A good thirty-acre Farm, situate at Lane Cove, and known by the name of Watson's Farm, now the property of Mr. Wiltshire, and in the present occupation of William Foster. The buildings on the farm consist of two good dwelling houses, large barn, &c. with good stock yard, and a quantity of rich manure. For further particulars apply to John Griffiths, or William Foster, on the Rocks.

ADVERTISEMENT.

The abridgment of general orders, &c. forming a part of the New South Wales Pocket Almanack, being completed, those subscribers, (if any), who have not received the latter part, are requested to favour the compiler with intimation thereof, that the neglect may be remedied immediately. The Paramatta subscribers are at the same time respectfully acquainted, that the addition, completing their almanacks, having been forwarded to Mr. Larra, will be delivered when applied for.

On Friday, Anthony Size, stock-keeper at Prospect, was found barbarously murdered, by whom has not yet been ascertained. The only accounts we are yet in possession of, state, that two men, passing near his hut with a cart, heard the groans of the unfortunate man, and proceeding towards the place from whence they issued, found him still alive, with his head leaning on a stump, and weltering in his own blood. They endeavoured to get from him

some information that might lead to the detection of the horrible atrocity; but could obtain no other answer than that it was a white man.

England and Healing, of the four unhappy men who were here capitally convicted on the 31st of January last, for robbery of the public stores at Port Dalrymple, were executed, the former at that settlement, the latter at Hobart Town, on the second day subsequent to the Estramina's arrival at each of those places. During the vessel's necessary stay at Port Dalrymple, Healing had effected his escape, as was supposed to take to the woods; but was only three days out of custody, when he was retaken going into his own house after dark.

On Friday night, Elizabeth Hayland, a poor woman who laboured under one of the severest dispensations of Providence, the loss of sight, was burnt in a most dreadful manner by her clothes taking fire, as she sat alone by the fire-side. The unfortunate woman receives every assistance from the General Hospital that can be afforded her, but little hope can be entertained of her long surviving the dreadful accident.

A bush-ranger of the name of Hughes, was yesterday sennight apprehended and sentenced by a bench of magistrates at Paramatta to receive two hundred lashes.

SHIP NEWS.

Friday morning arrived the Estramina, last from Hobart Town, where she arrived the 12th of April, from Port Dalrymple, and sailed again the 21st. She touched at Cape Barren, and brings three prisoners who had escaped from Hobart Town in an open boat, and after making Cape Barren with inconceivable risk, were there apprehended by the sealers, and kept in close confinement till an opportunity offered of rendering them up to justice.

Shortly before the Estramina left the River Derwent, two men unfortunately perished by a whale-boat upsetting, in which they were transporting four valuable kangaroo dogs to the opposite side, none of which ever reached the shore.

On Tuesday sailed the brig Venus for Hobart Town; same day sailed the Governor Hunter for Port Dalrymple, and Marcia for the southward.

Monday sailed the Contest for King's Town.

On Friday sailed the Charlotte for Hawkesbury; this day the sloop Hawkesbury to sail for ditto.

Yesterday afternoon, William Pago, the bush-ranger repeatedly advertised, was apprehended by three constables at the Sand-Hills, near the Brickfields. His haunt being supposed to be about that quarter, the chief constable has for five weeks past, night and day, been necessitated to detach a party from his subordinates on his particular duty. The culprit, when taken, had some property about him, for which no doubt owners will be found. He immediately tendered a voluntary confession of his crimes, committed during his last absence, and was lodged in gaol.

Fitzgerald, the bush-ranger, lately sent to King's Town, immediately absconded from thence, and, at all hazards, attempted to make his way inland to these settlements, in which he succeeded; but was very soon retaken, and lodged in Paramatta goal.

The Governor King, private colonial vessel, Mr. Edwards, master, last from Norfolk Island, with about fifteen tons of salted pork, and a quantity of soap manufactured there, was unfortunately lost on Tuesday, the 22nd ultimo, at Hunter's River, near the place where the Francia schooner was lost.

On Monday morning Keeling was executed pursuant to his sentence. — About a quarter before ten he was taken from his cell, and requested to be permitted to walk to the place of execution, towards which he advanced with a quick pace and much composure, which was however sometimes disturbed by passing objects that seemed to wound his recollection. At ten he arrived at the spot at which his destiny awaited him, and was there attended by the Rev. Mr. Fulton, by whose pious labours he had already confessed himself sincerely benefitted. — He joined in prayer with the minister with much fervor, and when given up to the executioner, advanced to the cart from which he was to be launched, with an air of confidence; but when on the brink of eternity, was so much overcome by the dreadful pause that preceded the removal of the cart, that strength forsook him, and he dropped into the arms of death.

May 11th.

NOTICE.

In consideration of the repeated useful and humane exertions of Andrew Thompson, settler, and head constable of the Hawkesbury districts, in saving the lives and much of the property of the sufferers by the repeated floods in that quarter, as well as from his general demeanour, and to provide a wholesome permanent drink for the settlers and labourers in that extensive settlement, his Excellency has directed the commissary to furnish the said Andrew Thompson with the coppers and other brewing utensils, arrived by the *William Pitt*, he making payment for the same, with the usual advance of *fifty per cent.* on the following obligatory conditions; That is to say—

To supply the inhabitants with good beer at not more than *one shilling per gallon*, and small beer at *sixpence*.

Not to dispose of the beer so brewed to particular individuals, but the distribution to be as general as possible.

Not to sell, give, lend, or make any other use of the malt he may make, than for the purpose of brewing on his own premises.

Those under the sentence of the law who may be considered deserving of having the indulgence of a *ticket of leave* continued to them, are to appear respectively at the secretary's office, at Sydney, on Monday the 10th instant, at eight o'clock in the morning; at Parramatta, on Wednesday the 21st, at the Court House; and at Hawkesbury, on Friday the 23rd, at the Green Hills.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Mr. Bevan,

At his house in South Street, on Thursday next, the 15th instant, at eleven in the forenoon, fifty ewes, twenty weather sheep, twenty-five pigs, and a quantity of coals. The purchasers may be accommodated with three months' credit, by paying a deposit of twenty per cent. and good security for the residue, in copper coin or approved bills. — At the same time will be sold, a quantity of fine muslin, boots, shoes, and second clothes, for which prompt payment in copper coin or approved bills will be required.

LANE, WATCHMAKER,

Most respectfully returns thanks to his friends and the public in general, for the very liberal encouragement already received, and informs them, that having his assortment of gold, silver, and metal watches of various sorts renewed by the ship *William Pitt*, is determined to sell each article at the most reasonable price.

N.B. Many having come into this colony, whose knowledge in the profession is confined, by which means their abilities have been hitherto useless, — Such as have been reared to any particular branch,

either in clock or watch-making, and wish to follow their profession, may find encouragement and instruction by applying as above.

LOST,

On Sunday last, between *George's River and Canterbury Farm*, a silver watch gilt, maker's name, James Williamson, No. 70, the property of Thomas Legg; any person returning it to whom, at his house in Back Row, East, will receive two pounds reward.

By accounts received by the *Estramina*, Lieutenant-Governor Patterson has found it necessary to remove the greater part of his establishment from Western Arm at Port Dalrymple, to the country above the cataract, where the land extends on both sides the rivers North and South Esk, into very considerable fertile plains without a tree, and in many parts extends further than the eye can reach, and is fully equal to every purpose of grazing and tillage. Exclusive of the valuable ground on the banks of those rivers, almost the whole space they inclose is of the same description; and there is every reason to hope the most favourable returns will be produced from these extensive tracts of fertile land. The accounts adds, that the cows are all in a very good state, and the whole of them in calf, which it is hoped will soon replace the numbers that unfortunately died soon after their arrival. Every person at that settlement, and at the settlement commanded by the Lieutenant-Governor Collins, enjoyed a good state of health.

Elizabeth Hayland, the poor blind woman who was last week shockingly burnt in consequence of her clothes taking fire, departed this life on Sunday morning, after enduring, for many hours, the most excruciating torture.

Lately James Mayne was brought before the bench, charged with

having in his possession a still, contrary to long-established rules and orders, which too frequent necessity has existed to repeat. The man denied the charge, which was unfortunately supported by the trivial circumstance of four hundred gallons of peach cyder being found in the house in a state of fermentation, and then nearly fit for distillation. The necessity of repressing a practice, the toleration of which must entail poverty, disease, and wretchedness upon these settlements, required that this complaint should be minutely investigated, wherefore the prisoner was remanded.

May 18th.

PROCLAMATION.

The governor having received certain information that concealed stills are worked in different parts of the colony, from which a poisonous and inflaming spirit is procured; and as it is certain that those stills are not worked but with the aid of some unknown but not unsuspected persons of property, in furnishing sugar and other materials, the following rewards will be given to accomplices, labourers, and detectors, on conviction of the offenders, viz.

To a convict under sentence of the law, on conviction of the worker or workers of the still (not being above the class of settlers from prisoners, or those who have been or remain under sentence of the law,) a conditional emancipation, and a reward of ten pounds from the gaol fund.

To freemen of all descriptions, on conviction as above, a reward in stock or otherwise equal to the value of twenty-eight pounds sterling.

To a convict under the sentence of the law, on conviction of any settler, dealer, or other person of property, furnishing any of the materials for the purpose of such distil-

ling, an absolute pardon, and a reward of ten pounds from the gaol fund.

To a freeman, on conviction as above, a reward in stock equal to fifty-six pounds sterling.

Any convict, by whose information or means any person whatever is convicted of vending, giving, or bartering spirits so made, will receive a conditional emancipation.

Any freeman, by whose means any licenced person is convicted of selling, giving, or bartering such spirits, will receive the amount of the recognizances, and have the forfeited licence.

By the command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Acting Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
May 10th, 1806.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Notwithstanding any former orders, regulations, or customs, his Excellency strictly forbids any inhabitant or other person whatever in the towns or settlements of Sydney, Paramatta, Green Hills, and Castle Hill, quitting their respective dwellings on any pretext, in case of alarm by fire, commotions, or otherwise, either by night or day, after the drums have beat to arms, and the alarum bells are rung, excepting police, military, and others stationed at the respective alarm posts, unless the service or appearance of any collective number, or of individuals may be called for by the magistrates or commissioned officers, civil and military.—Disobedience of this order will subject the persons offending to a most exemplary punishment; nor will the situation of any description of persons exempt them from having due notice taken of their acting contrary to this order.

NOTICE.

From the unlawful meetings lately held in this colony, and the numerous depredations of various kinds committed on the public, patrols from the New South Wales Corps, and Associations, are directed to

visit the different parts of the towns of Sydney and Paramatta, and their environs, at intermediate periods from sun-set to day-light: the inhabitants are therefore cautioned to attend to the following instructions, given to the patrols and police:—

First,—Not to suffer lights to be kept in improper houses after taptoo beating: if such houses should be lighted after that hour, and improper persons (not residents) found therein, they are to be confined, and the proprietor's conduct to be reported.

Second,—All idlers loitering about the towns or environs, after sun-set, to be imprisoned.

Third,—Convicts taken up by the guard or patrol, at night, to be sent to gaol; but should any improper conduct in persons of other descriptions oblige the guard or patrol to detain them, they are to be kept in the main guard-room.

Fourth,—It is to be clearly understood, that officers of all descriptions of the navy, army, the masters, super-cargoes, and mates of merchant vessels lying in the harbour, stock-keepers, superintendants, constables, and officers' servants on their master's business, are to be passed, on making themselves known to the patrol or centinels:—also known householders of good character, and who carry a light agreeable to the standing general orders of the garrison.

Fifth,—Persons answering "officer," who are not entitled to that appellation, are to be detained.

Sixth,—Persons, of whatever description, making use of abusive or insulting language to the patrol or centinels, in the execution of their duty, are to be detained and reported next morning. All persons taken up by the guard or patrol, and confined in the guard-house or gaol, are to be reported by the officer to Major Johnston at Sydney, or to Captain Abbot at Paramatta, before guard-mounting

next morning, that such measures may be taken as the service requires.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Acting Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
May 13th, 1806.

NOTICE.

Twenty head of deer having lately escaped from the enclosures of John Harris, Esq. at the Black-wattle Swamp, all persons are hereby strictly cautioned against shooting or in any other way maiming or hurting any of the said deer, on pain of prosecution; and owners of dogs are at the same time required to take notice, that should any of said deer be harassed or toftn, the dog will be destroyed, the owner prosecuted, and a reward of five guineas paid by the above gentleman to any informer prosecuting to conviction.

WANTED,

About 20,000 good shingles, and from 500 to 1000 bushels of lime. Persons desirous of furnishing the same to apply to J. Nichols, Hospital Wharf, Sydney.

June 1st.

Wednesday next being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth, the New South Wales Corps will fire three volleys at noon, after which a royal salute will be fired from the battery. At one o'clock a royal salute will be fired from His Majesty's armed vessel Buffalo. Such English armed ships or foreigners as intend to salute on that occasion, are to begin when the Buffalo fires her second gun. His Excellency will be ready to receive the compliment of the officers, civil, military, and naval on that occasion, at half-past one.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
June 1st, 1806.

A CAUTION.

Captain Meyrick having received certain information that attempts have been made to inveigle several seamen from his ship Aurora, now lying in this harbour, embraces the earliest occasion to caution all and every person or persons in this territory, against harbouring, concealing, or seducing from their duty, or in any wise aiding or abetting in so harbouring, concealing, or seducing any person or persons whatever, belonging to his said ship, on pain of prosecution. He considers it incumbent on him, at the same time, positively and unequivocally to declare, that should any seaman whatever desert the said ship, every possible means will be resorted to for apprehending and enforcing the law against him, for which purpose his agents and attorneys in this colony will be fully empowered and instructed to act after the ship's departure; and likewise to prosecute any master of a vessel, owner, or other individual who shall appear to have advised or abetted such desertion.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Mr. Bevan,

At Woollamoolla, on Friday next, the 6th of this present instant, at eleven in the forenoon, about two thousand pounds weight of leaf tobacco, which, for the advantage of persons desirous of purchasing thereof, will be put up in lots of 50lbs. to 100lbs. each. Payment to be made in copper coin or approved colonial bills.

FOR SALE, BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

Thirty allotments of land, delightfully situate for building, being part of Rickerby's Farm, at the Green Hills, Hawkesbury, each containing thirty-two rods, being four in width, and eight in depth. Credit until the month of February next, will be granted, (if required), upon satisfactory security. For further particulars apply to Thomas Rickerby.

TO BE LET OR SOLD,
A good stone House, eligibly situate No. 8, on the Rocks, particulars of which to be known of William Baker, Chapel Row.

NOTICE.

All owners of boats, or persons hiring or working such, are hereby cautioned not to make fast the said boats to the rails, posts, or rings attached to the buildings or premises of Mr. J. Nichols, contiguous to the Hospital Wharf, as all ropes or fastenings to such will be cast loose, of which it is hoped this will be sufficient notice.

STRAYED,

Since Wednesday the 21st instant, on the Paramatta Road, an iron-grey horse; any person giving or conveying information that may tend to the discovery of which to G. Howe, will receive five guineas reward.

SHIP NEWS.

On Monday last arrived the American ship *Criterion*, Captain Chace, in ninety days from China; same day, the *Aurora* south whaler, Captain Meyrick, from a cruise—will sail again shortly for the Penantipodes.

On Wednesday came in, from King's Town, his Majesty's colonial vessel *Resource*, with coals and cedar. This day the ship *William Pitt* quits the cove and drops down.

TO

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

A person who flatters herself her character will bear the strictest scrutiny, being desirous of receiving into her charge a proposed number of children of her own sex, as boarders, respectfully acquaints parents and guardians that she is about to situate herself either in Sydney or Paramatta, of which notice will be shortly given. She doubts not, at the same time, that her assiduity in

the inculcation of moral principles in the youthful mind, joined to an unremitting attention and polite diction, will ensure to her the much-desired confidence of those who may think proper to favour her with such a charge.—Inquiries on the above subject will be answered by G. Howe, at Sydney, who will make known the name of the advertiser.

ADVERTISEMENT.

An academy will be opened on Monday next, the 2nd of June, by H. and Mrs. Perfect, for the instruction of children in reading, writing, merchants accounts, and needle-work, at Mr. Edwards, No. 6, Spring Row, Sydney, where every attention will be paid to the morals of the pupil. H. Perfect will attend persons of either sex who may wish for private instruction at their own houses.

NOTICE.

William Gough having his Excellency's permission to depart this colony, and being determined to embrace the first opportunity that offers of a passage to England after the 1st of August next, requests every person indebted to him will be good enough to discharge their accounts immediately, otherwise legal measures will be resorted to for the recovery thereof; and any person desirous of purchasing his premises, with intention of carrying on the leather manufacture, may apply for the same directly. Possession may be had at a given period, and a man or two may be sent into the yard, by agreement, to be instructed during the remainder of the proprietor's residence.

LOST,

In or near Sydney, a seal watch-key, with cypher R. F. engraved on a cornelian, set in gold, the lower part steel, and swivel broke short off. The above being the property of a gentleman who esteems it less for

its intrinsic value than from other considerations, any person who may have found it is requested to make the same known to the printer of this paper, where they will obtain a reference to the owner, and receive a very liberal compensation for their trouble.

We learn with entire satisfaction, that the preparations for the ensuing harvest are anxiously attended to in all the different settlements, and that notwithstanding the long succession of unfavourable weather, yet that many farmers have finished sowing, and that others, whose situations were more exposed to impediment from the lodgment of the waters, have used every exertion to catch the staying season. Some, however, divested by the last flood that unhappily deluged the banks of Hawkesbury, not only of their next year's seed, but unfortunately of their sole dependence for the immediate maintenance of themselves and families, are, by that doleful event, much restricted in the plantation of wheat for the ensuing crop. This was an unavoidable consequence of a disaster which no human foresight could predict, or opposition have prevented, and which was more general and fatal in its ravages, by many degrees, than was ever before experienced, or than could be conceived within the list of possible events, and lamentable indeed must have been the catastrophe, had not the speediest relief been afforded by government to the otherwise insufferable wants of many families without a shelter, and bereft of sustenance. In a general order afterwards issued, those that had escaped or suffered little from the inundation were solicited to aid in the charitable work of alleviating its effects upon the numerous sufferers, by affording to their necessities such proportion of grain, and more especially for seed, as their respective circumstances should admit, and the exigencies of

the less fortunate than themselves should appear to require. Unnecessary as we are willing to consider such a solicitation where evident distress preferred a claim, yet at such a crisis it was no less essential to the condition of many families labouring under affliction, than to the general interest, to remind us of a duty we owe to one another, and which every man in similar circumstances, produced by similar causes, would unquestionably consider incumbent on his neighbour, whose happier chance it was to have escaped the scourge of adverse destiny. In what number of instances the request was acceded to, or the natural dictates of humanity complied with, is indeterminable; but we have the satisfaction to learn from the authority of persons variously situated on the river, that many have been enabled to sow as much of their land as the late return of favourable weather permitted with a prospect of success. The plantation of maize upon such grounds as could not be sowed in wheat, will, it is hoped, nearly compensate the disappointment, as with the ordinary attention necessary to its growth, it must be considered a more certain crop than any other. The culture of this valuable grain should, indeed, be properly attended to, in every season; as the preservation and increase of stock is ever dependent on it, and it must be admitted as an excellent substitute in case of failure in crops of wheat.

On Thursday an elegant entertainment was given by John Palmer, Esq. at Woollamoolla, at which his Excellency and Mrs. King were present, with many officers, civil and military, and their wives.

On Friday a cold collation was given by the officers of His Majesty's ship *Buffalo*, to a select party, among whom were his Excellency, and several officers, civil, military, and naval, with their wives.—The

company took water at twelve at noon, attended by the band of the New South Wales Corps in an accompanying boat, playing off "God Save the King;" and after making an excursion as far as Garden Island, returned, and were received on board the Buffalo. His Excellency embarked at three o'clock, accompanied by Captain Ferguson and other officers, and re-landed at eight.

Our report of the arrival of the William Pitt, stated the death of three female prisoners during the passage, having landed 117 out of 120 women received on board;—this account was not perfectly correct, as out of the above number received, only two were lost, the third having been discharged the vessel shortly prior to her departure.

DEATH.

At two in the morning of Tuesday last died, of a consumptive complaint, long contracted, Thomas Rowley, Esq. Captain-commandant of the Loyal Sydney Association, and formerly captain in His Majesty's New South Wales Corps. The philanthropy and many eminent virtues which adorned the character of that worthy gentleman, have too long been a subject of universal admiration to admit eulogium here: nor is it indeed in the power of language to convey a conception of the regret occasioned by the event, to his family and numerous friends of the first respectability in the colony, in which sensation all classes of inhabitants participate.

June 16th.

PROCLAMATION.

Philip Gidley King,

Whereas, notwithstanding the repeated orders, and the conviction

of several persons employed in distilling a pernicious spirit, and the present exigence of these settlements for want of grain, yet it has appeared before a bench of magistrates, that a quantity of maize, wheat, and other grain, has been malted for the purpose of distilling; I do hereby strictly forbid any person or persons whatever using any grain for so destructive a purpose; and do hereby direct and require, that every person convicted thereof, before a bench of magistrates, be fined in the penal sum of four hundred pounds sterling, and imprisoned for the term of six calendar months in the county gaol, exclusive of all other penalties for distilling spirits hitherto prescribed. Any person under the sentence of the law offending herein, will suffer such punishment as the magistrates may award. This proclamation to continue in full force and effect from the date hereof, to the 30th of March 1807.

By command of his Excellency,

G. BLAXCELL, Sec.

Government House, Sydney,

June 14th, 1806.

God save the King.

TO BE SOLD,

At No. 34, Back Row, East, a beautiful kangaroo bitch, of the first breed in the colony, warranted perfectly sound.

LOST,

(Supposed to be on the governor's wharf), two small keys, a tortoise-shell comb, and a packet of papers. Whoever may have found them, will, on delivering them to the printer, receive a reward of half a gallon of spirits.

WANTED,

A freeman, as an overseer on a large farm.—Any person that is capable of undertaking the said trust, may learn the particulars by applying to Mr. William Cox, at Hawkesbury.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Mr. Bevan,

At his rooms in High Street, on Monday, the 23rd instant, at eleven in the forenoon, one hundred and twenty prime sheep, mostly ewes in lamb, and two capital rams, to be put up in lots agreeable to the desire of purchasers, and three months credit given on approved security.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Mr. Bevan,

At his rooms in High Street, on Thursday next, at ten in the forenoon, about thirty pigs; a quantity of sole leather; boot legs and skins; muslins and chintzes; palampores in great variety; a number of deal packing cases; and sundry other articles, the property of a gentleman. Payment to be made in copper coin, and three months credit allowed on approved security.

CONFECTIONARY,

No. 40,

(Near the back gate of Government House),

On the East Side of Back Row.

The public are respectfully assured of a constant supply of the choicest delicacies ever before offered to their notice, among which are the following, sirop de citron and lemonade, in pint and quart bottles, in no-wise inferior to the best sirop de capellaire; currant jellies and jams; gooseberry ditto ditto; mulberry and quince ditto ditto; candied lemon and orange, preserved in the first style, and warranted to keep the longest voyage, with various others.

N.B. Jars of the above prepared for commanders and officers of vessels at a short notice, and at a price which will not be conceived exorbitant.

ONION SEED.

Thomas Boulton, of Sydney, having received a late supply of this very valuable seed, is desirous of accommodating the public with a part thereof; and therefore gives early

notice, that persons wishing to purchase, may have any quantity at a moderate charge, and in ample preservation, at his house on the Rocks.

SHIP NEWS.

On Tuesday evening arrived His Majesty's tender Lady Nelson, commanded by acting Lieutenant Symonds, in nineteen days from Norfolk Island, having previously landed Tippahee and his little suite at New Zealand, after a passage of five weeks from hence—passenger, Ensign Lawson, of the New South Wales Corps. Remain with His Majesty's ship Buffalo, the Aurora whaler,—the William Pitt, to sail shortly for China and to touch at Port Dalrymple; the Sophia; the Lucy, private ship of war, refitting, and brig from Norfolk Island; the Venus for Port Harrington; the Estramina, St. Francisco and St. Paulo. During the week three vessels from Hawkesbury brought wheat and maize, but slender freights, consigned in small proportions to various individuals.

A still was last week seized in the district of Hawkesbury, together with the various apparatus and some ingredients for the distillation of spirits.—The unremitting assiduity exercised in exploring these pestilential recesses cannot possibly fail of soon putting a period to the practice, from the check already given to which, there is every reason to hope the trade is at present in but very few hands.

To the Printer of the Sydney Gazette.
Sir,

The difficulty I have often heard complained of in the rearing of turkeys, induces me to present you with the following authentic communication on the subject. A celebrated Swedish writer upon husbandry, says, that most of our housewives have long despaired of success in rearing turkeys, and complained that the profit rarely indemnifies them for their trouble and loss

T

of time; whereas, continues he, little more is to be done than to plunge the chick into a vessel of cold water, the very hour, or if that cannot be, the day it is hatched, forcing it to swallow one whole pepper-corn, and then restoring it to its mother. From that time it will become hardy, and fear the cold no more than a hen's chick.—After which it must be remembered that those useful creatures are subject to one particular malady whilst they are young, which carries them off in a few days. When they begin to droop, examine carefully the hinder feathers, and there you will find two or three whose quill part is filled with blood, upon drawing these the chick recovers, and after that requires no better care than what is commonly bestowed on poultry that range the court yard. These articles are too true to be denied; and in proof of the success, three parishes in Sweden have, for many years, gained several hundred pounds by selling and rearing turkeys.

I am, yours, &c.

An Admirer of Rural Economy.

Two natives of Tongataboo, a male and female, are brought hither in the Criterion, and last week presented themselves before his Excellency.—The woman is rather a diminutive figure, her features good, and her hair, which is of a jetty black frizzed all over, so as to give her little head the distant appearance of a prodigious ball. The man, on the contrary, is of a tall stature, well proportioned, his countenance open, his complexion a very faint olive, and features more nearly resembling those of a European than of the other inhabitants of the southern hemisphere hitherto introduced by circumnavigation to our acquaintance. In fact, nature has bestowed a degree of expression upon this stranger's countenance which would have sanctioned a high opinion of the friendly disposition of his countrymen, had not too many fatal instances proved the reverse, but at all events

obtained a prepossession in his favour. We must ever remember, with aversion, the dreadful murder of Captain Pendleton, of the American ship Union, and of Mr. Boston, on their inhospitable shore; together with the inhuman massacre of the unfortunate Captain Mellon, of the ship Portland, with that of his whole crew, as narrated by Mrs. Morcy, in our paper of the 4th of November, 1804, who accompanied Captain Mellon, and was happily rescued from these barbarians by the Union, after a three years' residence among them.

Since the commencement of the present scarcity of grain, numberless tricks have been practised upon the credulous, and sums of money exacted as part payment for an article of which the vender was probably never in possession. From a baker in Pitt's Row, the sum of 7l. 10s. was thus fraudulently obtained under a positive assurance of his receiving the grain, for which he was to be charged 15s. a bushel, in the course of a few days, but after the promise had been many days exceeded, the poor man had the mortification to learn that the honest hawker had found a better market, and disposed of a commodity that was no longer his own, at 5s. per bushel advance upon the price already paid to him. It could not well be expected that he should personally acknowledge his faithlessness, and he therefore cautiously avoided an explanation and the repayment of the money; so that as the matter stands at present, (but independent of any similar frauds), he has brought his wheat to an excellent market, contenting himself possibly with the supposition, that the loss sustained by the too credulous baker was nothing more than an equitable compensation for his own loss of character.

The Lady Nelson was five weeks on her passage from hence to Tipahee's residence at the Bay of Islands in New Zealand, having rode

out some heavy gales of wind from the southward on that coast, before she could reach her destined port. —Tippahee was known and acknowledged as a great chief, from the North Cape to his own residence. From the length of the voyage to New Zealand, Lieutenant Symonds was unable to prolong his stay beyond five days. —All Tippahee's treasures which he took from hence, were safely landed; and the house, sent in frame by the Lady Nelson, was erected by Lieutenant Symonds on an island in the Bay of Islands, which, though small, is nevertheless impregnable to all the force of that country, which in its present state could be brought against it. Although the Lady Nelson's stay was so short, and notwithstanding the various engagements that must have pressed on our visitor's attention, upon his landing on his own territory after so long an absence, yet he did not forget his friends in New South Wales, to whom he individually sent presents, which must have greatly diminished his native armory and treasure; but among the most valuable was a quantity of very fine potatoes for seed, which are at this time highly acceptable. During the whole of the Lady Nelson's voyage, she met with a constant succession of the same tempestuous weather which has during that time visited this colony; but notwithstanding the many violent gales she encountered, no material accident has happened to the vessel, which still preserves her character as a vessel of the greatest capability for her size. Orders are given for the Lady Nelson to repair and refit, in order to proceed to Port Dalrymple and Hobart Town in about fourteen days.

June 22nd.

GENERAL ORDERS.

His Excellency has observed, with much concern, that, at the present time of scarcity, most of the garden

ground attached to the allotments, whereon different descriptions of persons have been allowed to build huts, are totally neglected, and no vegetable growing thereon; — as such neglect in the occupiers points them out as unfit to profit by such indulgence, those who do not put the garden ground attached to the allotments they occupy, in cultivation, on or before the 10th day of July next, will be dispossessed, (except in cases wherein ground is held by lease), and more industrious persons put in possession of them, as the present necessities of the settlement require every exertion being used, to supply the wants of families, by the ground attached to their dwellings being made as productive as possible.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
June 21st, 1806.

NOTICE.

The court of civil jurisdiction will re-assemble at Sydney on Monday next, (to-morrow).

PEACH TREES.

William Furber gives notice, that he has now ready for transplanting, a number of very fine peach-trees of the finest growth and flavour, among which are some very choice Newington layers, 5s. each; bearing trees, 1s., and seedlings 3d. each. The encouragement he meets with induces him to pay such attention to the improvement of the orchard, as he doubts not will secure to him the public favour.

SHIP NEWS.

Yesterday morning came in, from a cruise off New Zealand, the Star, Captain Bierney. —She touched at the Penantipodes, from whence she brought, passenger, Mr. William Stewart, master of the Edwin.

The prices yesterday demanded at the wharf for vegetables, occasioned a grievous disappointment to

many whose circumstances were but ill adapted to the market. Potatoes brought the extravagant price of eighteen shillings and upwards per bag, and every other article sold in the same proportion. Eggs were snatched up with avidity at half a crown a dozen, and every boat was beset by retail venders before it reached the wharf. That the demand for the various articles imported in these boats has considerably increased, is certain; but it is at the same time equally so that the quantities brought to market far exceed any thing of the kind ever before instanced, as some who never chose to visit us when things were fairly valued, are now induced by the strongest of motives to add their quota to the weekly fare.—Those who feel, complain of an imposition which it is in every one's power to avoid, by assiduous and determined application, to their gardens, which would very soon place the industrious beyond the necessity of complying with the exorbitant demands of those, whose insolent avarice appears to know no bounds. The quantity of ground lying waste in Sydney would, if put in cultivation, very much reduce the consumption of grain, which is at the present moment an object of the first consideration, and indeed the only one that can remedy the preposterous impositions of the vegetable venders. The remedy, however, falls nearly as heavy as the disease itself, and therefore requires a counter application, which his Excellency's general order on this subject is calculated amply to provide.

The sales by auction by Mr. Bevan, on Thursday, were thinly attended, owing to the badness of the weather. Some articles sold, however, at tolerable prices; among which were some excellent boot materials, and a quantity of shoes in small lots, the latter returning from 10s. to 14s. per pair. A herd of swine, put up six at a time, for the

better accommodation of the bidders, sold reasonably, insomuch that several lots purchased by a jobber, were the same day re-sold at four-pence a pound alive, by private contract, leaving him something in pocket.

In consequence of information, a search for distilling implements was made on Friday sennight, on the premises of a settler who lives at the North Rocks, when several hundred gallons of fermenting liquid were found, composed of peach cyder, with wheat and maize intermixed. The owner of the premises was immediately taken to Paramatta, and committed for examination.

A sample of the New Zealand flax, brought by the Lady Nelson from the dominion of Tippahee, strongly evinces the extent and vigor to which this valuable plant arrives there. Little as a people until very lately estranged to the existence of any other country than their own, can be acquainted with the tedious processes necessary to the culture and preparation of the flax, yet experience appears to have sufficiently instructed this ingenious race of men in all the arts necessary to its fitness for the purposes to which they apply it. Their untaught efforts in the manufacture of cloth, are a sufficient proof of a capacity with which few nations are endowed, until spurred by emulation to the exercise of those inherent faculties, which in a state of nature are concealed, until uncommon accident shall force them into action.—Besides various specimens of this kind, several hundred sets of fishing tackle lay claim to our attention. The lines, which are many fathom in length, though twisted entirely by hand, are not distinguishable from the best European cord, with several hooks cut out of a shell, and distant from each other, but fastened by shorter lines to the principal one, sinking perpendicularly with a weight fastened to the end, by

means of which they have the advantage over common lines, of three or more chances to one.

—
June 29th.

Commissary's Office,
June 28th, 1806.

Every person having public claims on government are to give them in to me on or before the 10th of July next, that they may be finally settled by the 20th, for the quarter ending the 30th instant.—No claims that are made after the 20th of July will be attended to.

By command of his Excellency,
J. PALMER, Commissary.

TO BE LET, in sundry allotments, discretionary with the respective tenants,

A valuable and extensive Farm, the property of William Neats Chapman, Esq. advantageously situated on the banks of the Nepean. For particulars application to be made to Thomas Jamison, Esq.

TO BE LET, and entered on immediately,

A capital and valuable Farm at Prospect Hill, the property of Messrs. Bass and Bishop; a part clear, and has been cultivated. For particulars apply as above.

TO BE LET, together or in Lots.

A Farm, containing one hundred acres, nearly twenty of which are cleared, delightfully situate in the district of Hawkesbury, on the western banks of the South Creek, and presenting an excellent opportunity for the rearing and grazing of stock, being perfectly free from floods. Application to be made to William Addy, on the premises.

LOST,

(Supposed to be taken from her moorings between Squire's Wharf and Paramatta), a good boat, the property of Alexander Macdonald,

settler at the Field of Mars; the dimensions of her keel about 14 or 15 feet. Any person conveying information that may tend to the recovery of the said boat, to John Ramsey, settler in the above district, will receive twenty shillings reward.

LOST,

About three weeks since, a promissory note of hand, No. 371, drawn and signed by Henry Kable, for 10l. copper coin, and made payable to William Chapman. Any person delivering the said note to Edmund Redmond, near the General Hospital, will receive twenty shillings reward.

N.B. Payment being stopped, and the bill published when lost, it can be of no use but to the owner.

NOTICE.

The American ship Favorite, being about to sail, all claims or demands on Captain Paddock, are hereby required to be presented within ten days from the date hereof:

Sydney Cove, June 27th, 1806.

WANTS A PLACE,

As overseer to a farm and stock, a freeman without incumbrance, who is very well versed in agriculture, and is at the same time well acquainted with the care of stock of every description. Inquiries respecting the advertiser, whose character is undeniable, will be answered, whether verbally or by letter, by Mr. George Mealmaker, at Paramatta.

Yesterday morning presented at the wharf a rich vegetable variety, the quantity nevertheless but little affecting the prices. Potatoes had rather an increase upon the rates of last week, producing, at the first hand, from 19s. to 19s. 6d. per bag, which were mostly bought up for retail. Maize was sold at 14s. per bushel, and every other article in the like reasonable proportion.—Among the more anxious purchasers

was an old lady, resident somewhere about Chapel Row, who finding herself what is frequently termed "a day after the fair," entertained a number who shared in her disappointment, with many pleasant and disinterested remarks upon the deadly sin of regrating and forestalling. The appearance of another boat, however, gave a sudden check to her eloquence, and to convince her astonished auditory that practice was not altogether dependent upon precept, she acceded without a murmur to the first price demanded, and being informed that their potatoe cargo extended only to eleven bags, with increasing eagerness answered, "Why then I must have 'em all." The danger to which the love of buying bargains sometimes exposes the purchaser, is a consideration that should not be entirely lost sight of, lest it should some time or other be attended with a serious after-clap. A thorough knowledge of character should form a chief inducement, but never prevent strict and satisfactory inquiry as to the manner in which any article hawked for sale may have been obtained.

A seaman belonging to the John colonial vessel, was lately charged with having fraudulently obtained from the owner of another vessel, the sum of 5*l.* as an advance, upon a pretext of entering into his immediate employ, to the fulfilment of which he was precluded by his prior engagement. The many frauds of this kind continually put in practice, rendered a full cognizance of the complaint highly necessary. The bench therefore directed, that the sum obtained be refunded to the complainant, when so much shall become due from his wages; and that the prisoner should be punished with two hundred lashes, the latter part of which punishment his Excellency was pleased to mitigate to fifty lashes.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday morning sailed

the William Pitt, for Norfolk Island and China.

This day is expected to sail for Port Dalrymple, the Venus colonial vessel with provisions for the use of His Majesty's settlement.

The Lucy, private ship of war, last week landed her guns preparatory to her heaving down for the repair of her hull.

July 6th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

In consequence of the bad state of the roads leading from Sydney to Paramatta, and the danger of horses being lamed in the deep ruts near Sydney, it is hereby directed, that all public and private carts and waggons passing that road, (not otherwise loaded), do take a load of brickbats from the Brickfields, and drop them in the places appointed by the overseer of the roads, provided it does not lie out of the way to which the cart or waggon is going. This order to be enforced by John King, overseer of the brick-makers, who is to report those that do not choose to obey this necessary regulation for amending that part of the road, and preserving their own horses.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
June 30th, 1806.

REWARD.

As a paper of a most seditious and mutinous tendency was put into my hands on the morning of the 3rd instant, (by a convict, who said he found it near my barrack), purporting to be the sentiments of the soldiers of the New South Wales Corps under my command, but which on the most minute investigation appears to have been fabricated without the knowledge of any individual in the regiment, whose

uniform good conduct I have the utmost satisfaction in acknowledging.—I therefore offer a reward of *one hundred guineas* to any person or persons who will bring the writers to justice, by means of their being prosecuted to conviction. Any person, an accomplice, but no principal, will receive the same reward, and an indemnification on prosecuting to conviction; and, in addition, I have his Excellency Governor King's authority to offer a further reward of *one hundred pounds sterling*, from the gaol fund.

(Signed)

GEORGE JOHNSTON, B. Major,
Commanding the New South
Wales Corps.

To the Printer of the Sydney Gazette.
Sir,

As it is natural for every well-wisher to the rising generation to interest himself in its welfare, I sincerely regret the cause that on this occasion induces me to occupy the attention of your readers. Religion and morality few persons will hesitate to pronounce a part of education that should be attended to in preference to every other, and few careful parents will deny, that the earlier the seeds are sown in the infant mind, the more luxuriant and less liable to fail will be the produce. My sabbatical observations lead me to conjecture, however, that some among the many have not so totally their children's benefit at heart, as to consider these first impressions in anywise worthy their attention, or as necessary either to their welfare in society, or to their happiness in a future endless state. Harsh as this conclusion may at first appear, yet no further demonstration of its justness can be required than the already, I dread to say, abandoned habits in which too many are permitted to indulge. As a Sunday evening spectacle we are presented in almost every avenue with a juvenile multitude, variously amusing themselves, but mostly in pastimes which may lead to dissipation,

and pave the way to the abominable vice of gaming. Though some of the members of the little neglected group content themselves with winning 'dumps' from one another, yet the elder practitioners, anxious to profit by their supposed superiority, trade in a more valuable metal, and stake a farthing with as much anxiety as a spendthrift hazards his last guinea upon a single cast. Could the mischief be hoped to end here, on any other day than Sunday their irregularities might possibly have escaped my notice, but when I reflect on the consequences to be hereafter dreaded from an early introduction into the school of vice, I shudder at the indiscretion of all that negligently suffer it. A favourite maxim in trade, which says that "Great endings come from small beginnings," may likewise bear an application to the present subject; as too many have sadly to lament the origin of the most destructive vices in this very species of juvenile licentiousness. Few men are negligent of their pecuniary interests, and many are apt to colour little stratagems essential to their advancement by the consideration of family. But surely that family can owe little to the consideration of a provider, who, unconscious of the task which nature has imposed on him, in the performance of his duty, scarcely excels the brute creation. The necessity of parental good example to the inculcation of worthy principles, as well as to give a relish for good habits, will, I seriously apprehend, be much felt in the advancement of many of our youth to the requisites that adapt men to society. These are momentous obstacles, I acknowledge; but such nevertheless as may with little trouble be removed, where rooted depravity does not unhappily exist. As I have already run to a much greater length than I intended, I shall no further presume on your readers' patience, than barely to hope some less dangerous amusements may be recommended by

parents; and above all, that a proper respect for the Sabbath should be enforced by all who have the welfare of posterity at heart.

A Friendly Monitor.

On Tuesday last Nathan Loyd was severely hurt by a piece of timber falling from the top of the new octagon windmill, at which he was employed, and one of the ends striking him on the right temple. He was immediately conveyed to the General Hospital, and upon examination the wound proved only a severe contusion, though a fracture at first was apprehended. From the prompt assistance in such cases afforded to the unfortunate, and the successful efforts of the medical gentlemen to prevent violent inflammation in the present instance, every hope may be entertained of the speedy recovery of the patient.

ONE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD!

Whereas an anonymous letter of a seditious tendency, (purporting to be from the soldiers of the New South Wales Corps, and addressed to their commanding officer), was this day picked up and delivered to Major Johnston:—The whole of the non-commissioned officers and privates, being well satisfied that such was written by some dark assassin for the purposes of suiting some evil private purposes, do hereby offer a reward of *one hundred pounds sterling*, to any person or persons who will bring the author to conviction.

An accomplice prosecuting as above will receive the same reward from me, for the non-commissioned officers and privates of the corps,

THOMAS WHITTEL,
Serjeant-Major.

Sydney, July 3rd, 1806.

July 20th.

STRAYED SHEEP.

Fourteen ewes and two wethers having some time since strayed from

my farm at Parroquet Hill, I do hereby offer a reward of two pounds sterling to any persons who will give such information as may lead to their recovery, or a proportionate reward for any part thereof. Should any of the said sheep be kept up or withheld after this notice, I do hereby offer a further reward of five guineas to any person whose information may lead to the conviction of the offender or offenders.

JOSHUA PALMER.

TO BE DISPOSED OF BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A capital team of bullocks, three in number, with excellent cart and harness complete. The purchaser may be accommodated with credit upon good security. For reference to the proprietor, application to be made to G. Howe, back of the commissary's office.

TO BE DISPOSED OF BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

A capital glazier's diamond; to be paid for in labour either of painting or glazing. For reference to the owner apply as above.

STOLEN OR STRAYED,

From Mr. Campbell's farm, two white barrow pigs, weight about 40lbs. each; another ditto with a large spot on each eye; also a black barrow, about 50lbs. weight; a little sow with a white streak under the belly; a large black boar, and an old black sow of the China breed.—Any person giving information of them to J. Wain, at the farm aforesaid, will receive twenty shillings reward.

A CAUTION TO PARENTS.

On Tuesday last a shark of enormous size appeared at the Hospital Wharf, at high water, and regaled itself upon some pieces of refuse fish that had been thrown in.—After making numerous evolutions, to the terror of the spectators, who sincerely rejoiced at the same time that no ill-fated child had fallen

within its merciless jaws, the monster sheered off unharmed, as no weapon could be procured in time to assault it.

To the Printer of the Sydney Gazette.
Sir,

As a settler in the district of Hawkesbury, I am desirous, through the medium of your Public Intelligencer, to commune with my neighbours and brother settlers in this quarter, upon a subject in all respects highly momentous, not to their interest alone, but to that of the whole colony and its dependent settlements, namely, the preservation of their stock of swine from total famine, throughout the next three or four succeeding months between this and the coming harvest. That many among us are already without the means of contributing to the support of these valuable creatures, a single grain of any kind of corn, I need not endeavour to persuade any person who is not entirely unacquainted with the consequences that must have inevitably attended the last disastrous floods; and although part of this stock was by Providence permitted to escape the almost universal wreck, yet if some method of providing for their sustenance be not speedily devised, better it had been for them to be enumerated in our first great loss, than to linger out a pitiable existence until carried off by the severer pangs of famine. How the major part of these creatures subsist already, must, I am certain, appear wonderful to you town-folk; but this is a mystery it becomes my province partly to explain to you. In most parts of the settlement, those who had the means of prompt and effectual exertion in their power, embraced the earliest opportunity of seeding their ground, and indeed in a great many instances the receding waters were so diligently followed up, that the hoe and harrow frequently dibbled on the water's edge: then as you once compared the inundation of our banks to the

'overflowings of the Nile,' which add to the fertility of the deluged soil, the rapid progress of vegetation admitted the ingress of stock upon such sown fields as were of too forward growth; and to this fortunate cause I may venture to say many of our swine are indebted for their present existence. But this resource is now nearly at an end; the preservation of our crops of wheat will very soon require them to be kept up, as well as the security of the maize, which must shortly be planted, and which is in all respects equally entitled to the assiduous attention of the thrifty farmer. Judge, then, of the miserable condition that awaits this valuable part of a stock, whose increase so well repays the care bestowed on it. Circumscribed within the narrow limits of a fold, pining in want, and if they were capable of reflection as they are of keen animal sensation, only at liberty to bewail their wretchedness in being to all appearance cruelly confined for the bare purpose of starvation. But I conjure my considerate neighbours to weigh the only remedy I can advise, and if better can be resorted to, speedily to make their opinions public. Considering that I have already sufficiently explained the impolicy of allowing, in a short time, swine to range at large, and the perfect inutility of folding them at such a crisis as the present, I am yet inclined to hope, that by their total removal from the farms to the uncultivated back ground, under the care of proper herdsmen, they may still be preserved, and about the woods and numerous lagoons find at least sufficient sustenance, until they may be recalled to welcome in the harvest-home.

HUMANITAS.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday arrived, from a cruise off New Zealand and Sandy Cape, the Richard and Mary south whaler, out from hence nearly nine months, and having on board about

100 tons of spermaceti oil. She left on the fishery the Vulture, Folger; Elizabeth and Mary, Hingston; and American ship Brothers, Captain Werth; all of which may be soon expected here.

In last week's gazette, the return on the 9th instant of the sloop Venus, which sailed from hence the 30th ultimo, with provisions and stores for Port Dalrymple, was not inserted, that vessel having been obliged by the strong west and south-west winds to put back. The stores and provisions on board her have been since shifted to the Sophia, taken up to proceed direct to Port Dalrymple; her cargo being completed by an additional quantity of provisions, stores, and clothing, and twenty convicts who arrived in the Fortune. — It is hoped this fine-sailing vessel will make a short passage.

To insure dispatch in carrying supplies of grain to Hobart on the River Derwent, Lieutenant Symonds, commander of the Lady Nelson, with the crew of that vessel, have been turned over to His Majesty's colonial schooner Estramina, which being new sheathed and coppered, will be ready to proceed thither during the next week, with stores, provisions, and clothing, as much inconvenience is to be apprehended from the lawless seizure of the brig Venus, which had on board a quantity of stores and provisions for that settlement.

Of the prisoners landed from the Fortune, 150 have been drafted to the agricultural settlement at Castle Hill.

August 3rd.

TO BE SOLD, and immediate possession given,
A good shingled and weather-boarded Dwelling-House, situate on the Rocks, contiguous to the principal avenue leading into High

Street. For particulars apply to W. Aker, No. 49, Chapel Row.

Also, a Dwelling-House, with large garden, abundantly stocked with choice fruit trees, &c. eligibly situate on the Brickfield Hill, and known by the name of Patulla's Garden. Information to be had on the premises.

TO BE LET, by the Orphan Committee, for a term of three years, The very valuable farm, known by the name of Grose Farm, pleasantly situate within two miles of Sydney, on the Paramatta Road, comprising five hundred acres of land, about 50 of which are clear; together with a commodious farm residence and out-buildings, with two good gardens. Any persons desirous of entering on the premises are required to deliver sealed tenders at the Orphan House, on or before the 24th instant.

GEORGE DOWLING,
Clerk to the Committee.
Sydney, August 2nd, 1806.

The very great loss of stock, rendered probable by the present excessive scarcity of grain, we have the satisfaction to hear is in great part likely to be prevented, by the measures of humane precaution which many settlers have adopted, of turning their swine daily into the woods and uncultivated grounds behind their farms. A settler at Hawkesbury, below the Green Hills, assures us that this method is almost general in his neighbourhood, and that its advantages are already visible in the preservation of many creatures which must have otherwise perished before this time. His children drive them out and in, and are admirably attentive in the performance of a task imposed by necessity. It is a happy reflexion that every day brings us nearer to the return of plenty. Let this hope of success cheer the intervening toil, and increase our industrious endeavours, to deserve the gifts, which well assisted nature has in store for us;

Frequent ravages upon the stock have recently been effected by native dogs in the neighbourhood of Cattye; these voracious animals have attacked sheep and lambs in the middle of the day, and take them from the flock, heedless of opposition. Their impudence in assaulting a desired victim, as well as their craft in eluding a pursuit, many have been witnesses to. Nature may be said to have imparted to their species

a portion of sagacity to which few civilized dogs have equal pretension. Our information says, that they assemble in troops, as if by appointment, and setting out in different directions, explore the recesses of the devoted kangaroo, whose perhaps superior speed can but little avail against the circumvention of a host of adversaries, that conduct the chase with fatal regularity.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Arrival of Governor Bligh.

ON the 7th of August, Governor Bligh arrived, to take upon him the administration of the colony, agreeably to his Majesty's commission. He was accompanied by his son-in-law Lieutenant Putland of the navy, and Mrs. Putland.

Mr. Bligh was a captain in the navy, and had been distinguished by very meritorious services, particularly in the attack at Copenhagen, where he received the thanks of Lord Nelson. But a circumstance which gave him the highest claim to public admiration, was his memorable voyage in 1789, in an open boat, nearly from the island of Tofoa in the South Seas, to the Dutch settlement of Timor, (at the lowest computation three thousand six hundred miles);—a performance unparalleled in the annals of navigation. He had, agreeably to his Majesty's especial commands, collected a quantity of bread-fruit plants, the cultivation of which it was designed to introduce in the West India Islands, and was preparing to quit

the South Seas when, by a daring and flagitious mutiny on board his ship, (the *Bounty*), he was turned adrift in his launch, with nineteen men, five days provisions, and without fire-arms. In these trying circumstances, the difficulties he encountered and with matchless conduct overcame, raised an universal prepossession in his favour, whether with respect to the situation with which he was now entrusted, or any other one demanding prudence and talent.—But not to anticipate events, we proceed with our extracts from the *Sydney Gazette*.

*Sydney Gazette ; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
August 10th, 1806.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-quarters,
August 7th, 1806.

His Excellency Governor Bligh being arrived to relieve Governor King, he will land to-morrow at eleven o'clock, and is to be received by the troops and garrison with the honours due to his rank, as His Majesty's captain general and governor in chief. In consequence of some previous arrangements, Governor King retains the executive authority until Wednesday next, the 13th instant, when he will embark on board His Majesty's ship Buffalo, at eleven o'clock, after which his Excellency Governor Bligh's commission will be publicly read.

**ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCEL-
LENCY GOVERNOR BLIGH.**

On Tuesday last arrived, with His Majesty's ship Porpoise, the Lady Magdelina Sinclair, on board which vessel was Governor Bligh, who having received Governor King's congratulations on his arrival, by Major Johnston and Captain Houston, the same day landed on a private visit to Governor King, by whom he was received at the Government Wharf.

At nine o'clock on Friday morning the New South Wales Corps and Sydney Loyal Association were under arms with the colours of the regiment. On Governor Bligh's leaving the Lady Sinclair, that ship fired a salute of fifteen guns, and on his Excellency's leaving His Ma-

jesty's ship Porpoise, which ship he had gone on board to hoist his pendant, he received a similar salute. He then went on board His Majesty's ship Buffalo, and on going on board and leaving that ship was saluted with fifteen guns and yards manned, as likewise by the honourable company's extra ship Fortune, commanded by Mr. Henry Moore. From thence his Excellency landed at the Government Wharf, attended by Captain Houston of His Majesty's ship Buffalo, and on landing was saluted with ten guns from the saluting battery. The New South Wales Corps and Association lined the avenue leading from the Government Wharf to Government House, from whence his Excellency Governor King, attended by the civil staff, passed through the lines, and received the military honours due to his rank. On arriving at the wharf the governors met, and after exchanging complimentary gratulations, repassed the line, when the same military honours were repeated in compliment to his Excellency Governor Bligh;—after which all the commissioned officers, civil and military, were introduced by Governor King to Governor Bligh, at Government House. We are happy to state, that Governor King's successor is accompanied by his amiable daughter, Mrs. Putland.

On Friday arrived the private colonial ship King George, from a successful cruise, in which she had the good fortune to kill fifteen black whales.

August 24th.

ADDRESSES.

To Philip Gidley King Esquire,
late captain-general and governor-in-chief in and over His Majesty's territory of New South Wales, and its dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

"The officers civil and military, with the free inhabitants of this colony, at this moment of your departure from amongst them, respectfully intreat you to accept their unfeigned wishes for your health, happiness and prosperity. They sincerely hope that you will safely and speedily arrive in your native country, and when there, that His Majesty's government will duly appreciate your services, in discharging the duties of an office arduous and difficult beyond what can easily be imagined by any person unacquainted with this peculiar colony. They are fully sensible that you, sir, will always feel a lively interest in its prosperity; and they fervently hope that you will long enjoy that pleasure, and that every possible good may crown your future days."

(Signed)

GEORGE JOHNSTON, for the military,
RICHARD ATKINS, for the civil,
JOHN M'ARTHUR, for the free inhabitants.

[ANSWER.]

His Majesty's ship Buffalo,
August 14th, 1806.

"Gentlemen,

"I have had the honour of receiving your kind good wishes, and what is equally dear to me, your liberal sentiments of my conduct in the situation I have had the honour to hold in these settlements; in the administration whereof, I am truly sensible and grateful for the support and assistance I have received from the different classes of His Majesty's subjects in this territory. Although I have succeeded in obtaining our Most Gracious Sove-

reign's leave to resign the situation I have held in this colony, and am on the point of leaving you and many for whom I have a sincere esteem, yet I assure you, that at no period of my future existence will an earnest desire and solicitude be wanting, to do my utmost in forwarding the interests of this remote part of His Majesty's dominions, and the prosperity of the inhabitants. Accept, gentlemen, my sincere thanks for the personal attention I have received from you, by the handsome manner in which you have presented a testimonial I always shall esteem and hold dear; and that you and every individual of the classes you have so obligingly represented, may long enjoy health, and every benefit that their arduous exertions merit, in forwarding the interests, and establishing the respectability of a colony, whose prosperity will always be nearest the heart of,

"Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient and faithful well-wisher,

"PHILIP GIDLEY KING."

To Major GEORGE JOHNSTON,
RICHARD ATKINS, and
JOHN M'ARTHUR, Esquires.

To his Excellency William Bligh, Esquire, captain-general and governor-in-chief in and over the territory of New South Wales, and its dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

"May it please your Excellency,

"The officers, civil and military, with the free inhabitants of this colony, beg leave respectfully to offer their sincere congratulations to your Excellency, upon your appointment to this government, and to express their happiness at your safe arrival. They trust that your Excellency will not entertain unfavourable opinions of the fertility and natural resources of the country, from the unfortunate scarcity which the late inundations have occasioned;

"for be assured, sir, you will find the country, under the ordinary dispensations of Providence, neither wanting in fertility, nor barren of resources, but, on the contrary, capable of maintaining its inhabitants in plenty, and of becoming, with moderate encouragement, a colony of considerable importance to Great Britain. We have an undoubting confidence that your Excellency, by a just, moderate, firm, and wise government, will promote the happiness of all who deserve it: and we feel animated by a pleasing hope, that under your Excellency's auspices, agriculture will flourish and commerce increase; whilst enjoying, as far as circumstances will admit, the constitutional rights of British subjects, we shall in due time rise above our present comparative state of insignificance, and by our example prove to the world what great exertions mankind make, when properly incited to exercise their natural powers. We intreat your Excellency to believe, that, anxious as we are for the improvement of agriculture and the extension of commerce, (the two great sources of population, civilization, and morality), we are perfectly sensible they alone are not sufficient to secure the welfare of our infant establishment; but that it is the indispensable duty of us all to combine with our endeavours to accomplish these objects, a reverential regard to the law, and a cheerful acquiescence in such measures as your Excellency may adopt to improve the true interest of the colony. Convinced that our prosperity and happiness will be the greatest objects of your Excellency's care, we earnestly hope your Excellency will find your administration productive of real and permanent satisfaction and honour to yourself."

(Signed)

GEORGE JOHNSTON, for the military,
 RICHARD ATKINS, for the civil,
 JOHN M^AARTHUR, for the free inhabitants.

[ANSWER.]

Government House, Sydney,
 August 13th, 1806.

"Gentlemen,

"I accept your congratulations and address with very great satisfaction, and am happy in believing I am not less honoured with your confidence, than I feel a disposition and determination to promote the welfare of this infant colony, the government of which our Most Gracious King has committed to my charge, united with you, his dutiful and loyal subjects, in your respective situations of trust and confidence. It will be a heartfelt satisfaction to His Majesty and his government, to learn from your address, that the country settled under his benign influence, is capable of ample returns to the industrious settler and merchant, under due exertions, regulations, and encouragement, to the ends of which I draw very happy conclusions from your dutiful representation, and determining to support a reverential regard to the laws, and inculcate a true sense of religion and morality. Your confidence in me, I trust, will tend to realise the benefits you look to: I have met you with great affection, and shall watch over your interests to the utmost of my power, to render society a blessing, and the colony flourishing.

"I have the honour to be,

"Gentlemen,

"Your most devoted

"and faithful servant,

"WM. BLIGH."

To Major GEORGE JOHNSTON,
 RICHARD ATKINS, and
 JOHN M^AARTHUR, Esquires.

GENERAL ORDERS,

(Omitted in last week's Gazette).

His Excellency Governor King having this day reviewed His Majesty's New South Wales Corps, previous to his giving up the government, he is happy to testify his approbation of their general good conduct, and the satisfaction he feels to leave under his successor's direc-

tions a corps, whose constant activity, zeal, and soldier-like conduct has so eminently shewn itself, in just discharge of the duty they owe to their king and country. A similar acknowledgment is also due from his Excellency to the Loyal Sydney and Paramatta Associations.

By command of his Excellency,
G. BLAXCELL, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
August 13th, 1806.

SHIP NEWS.

On Thursday night arrived His Majesty's colonial schooner *Estramina*, under the command of Lieutenant Symonds, from Hobart, whither she took a supply of salt and dry provisions for the use of His Majesty's settlement.

On Saturday the 16th instant sailed the American ship *Brothers*, Captain Worth; and on Tuesday last sailed for Bengal the Honourable Company's extra-ship *Fortune*, commanded by Captain Henry Moore.

Fitzgerald, the bush-ranger, last week advertised as having escaped from the county gaol, is again in custody.

Murphy, the bush-ranger, was last week in custody for a short time near Paramatta, but craftily conducting himself with apparent submission to his captors until an occasion offered, he tripped up the heels of his unsuspecting guard, and arming himself with a reaping hook, made off without further interruption.

The following whimsical circumstance occurred last week at Paramatta:—A young woman, whose name is Salmon, stepping out of the passage-boat at the wharf, accepted a hand gallantly presented by a youth of the name of Haddock, whose attention to the lady rendering him careless of himself, he lost his equilibrium, and both the Haddock and

the Salmon, hand in hand, descended into their native element.

August 31st.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Whereas great inconvenience attends boats which come loaded with vegetables and other articles for barter with the inhabitants and others at Sydney, it is ordered, that in future no purchase shall be made until every thing is landed at the place now appointed, and that the market shall not be considered to be opened until seven o'clock in the morning.

All settlers and other descriptions of persons who have any prisoners off the store, or government labourers in their employ that understand sawing, are required immediately to render a list of their names to the secretary's office at Sydney; Mr. Marsden, at Paramatta; and Mr. Arndell, at Hawkesbury.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
August 23rd, 1806.

NOTICE.

The Honourable East India Company's extra-ship *Sinclair* will sail from this port on the 12th of September. All claims or demands against Captain Jackson, or on the said ship, are therefore to be presented at Mr. Lord's, previous to the above period.

Sydney, August 31st, 1806.

TO BE LET, and entered on immediately,

A farm of four hundred acres, situated in the high land at Richmond, a mile and a quarter from the river, and three hundred and seventy acres of it perfectly secure from the highest flood, and well adapted either to an arable or stock farm, being bounded by an extensive right of common. The soil is a very rich

and productive loam, excellently well suited for a rotation of crops of wheat, barley, pulse, potatoes, &c.; upwards of forty acres are cleared, and twenty burnt off. On the premises is a small but convenient weather-boarded and shingled house, a large and strong-built sheep yard and shed, a yard for horned cattle, a barn, hog-styes, &c. a garden well laid out with a number of orange, lemon, peach, and other kinds of fruit trees.

TO THE PUBLIC.

As we have no certainty of an immediate supply of paper, we cannot promise a publication next week.

September 7th.

On Tuesday his Excellency the late governor, and Mrs. King, arrived in town from Paramatta; and yesterday Mrs. King returned thither, accompanied by Mrs. Putland.

On Tuesday arrived the ship *Sophia*, from Port Dalrymple, from whence she sailed the preceding Tuesday. By this vessel arrived his honor Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Paterson; whose landing took place at ten in the morning, with salutes from the battery. The accounts received of the already highly improved state of the settlement are truly gratifying. The ground produces every nutritious plant that has hitherto been tried; the potatoe arrives to full perfection, and is much above the ordinary size, while at the present moment upwards of sixty acres, sown in wheat, promise a luxuriant return.

On the night of Friday se'nnight a calf was found killed in the government stock yard at Toongabbee. This offence is attributed to some of the delinquents who have taken to the woods, preferring a life of crime,

fatigue, and, dreadful solitude, a prey to want, to the permanent advantages of honest industry, the source of every human comfort.

September 14th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

His Excellency in confirming his predecessor's proclamation of the 6th of July, 1803, forbidding any person passing the Nepean, &c. hereby directs that no person whatever, except officers, do at any time resort across the River Nepean, on any pretext, excepting the people employed by Messrs. M'Arthur and Davidson, who attend their flocks of sheep, and the limited number of people appointed by his Excellency to assist John Warby in taking the cast-off bulls, which persons to be provided with tickets signed by me, and countersigned by the magistrate at Paramatta; Thomas Harper and John Warby, constables, and the military guard at the Cow Pastures and hut, having full authority for that purpose.—All persons, civil and military, and others, are required to be aiding herein.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.

Government House, Sydney,
September 12th, 1806.

NOTICE.

Government mill will take in corn to grind for individuals, on condition that every eleventh bushel be paid into the public stores for the relief of the distressed settlers at the Hawkesbury; which will be distributed under his Excellency the governor's directions.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
August 25th, 1806.

NOTICE.

In consequence of the distress of the settlers at the Hawkesbury, the

commissary is directed to relieve a certain number of the most necessitous, for six weeks, until the harvest is got in, by appropriating two bullocks weekly from government stock, to be issued in the proportion of half a ration to the settlers whose names are expressed in a list, which the store-keeper at Hawkesbury is furnished with for that purpose, on condition, that such settlers as take that relief, are to pay for the same in grain the ensuing harvest, at the rate of one shilling per pound for the fresh meat so issued. Any person detected in selling or disposing of any part of this supply, will be punished accordingly.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
September 8th, 1806.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, By Mr. Bevan,

On Saturday next, the 20th instant, at the Freemason's Arms, Paramatta, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, a healthy cow, heavy in calf, and two bulls, the property of Mr. Charles Bishop.

METHOD OF EXTRACTING A SORT OF TURPENTINE FROM THE BLACK GUM-TREE.

At the fall of the leaf, dig below the principal roots of the tree, and bore holes from them into the trunk; then place vessels to catch the stringy substance that weeps from the apertures. Cover the roots again; make a large fire round the body of the tree, until burned down. In a few days the vessels below the roots will be found to contain a considerable quantity of the substance sought.

First,—one pound of the above turpentine with six pounds of grass tree (or yellow) gum, over a gentle fire, will make a kind of composition of an elastic nature, and which very probably will answer for ships' bot-

toms, equal in every respect to any thing ever used.

Secondly,—As the yellow gum will not mix with any other thing yet found in this colony, it might be useful in preparations where tar could not be obtained, exclusive of many other services that might be derived from it, yet unknown.

September 21st.

NOTICE.

Any settlers who have proper ground, and disposed to sow hemp seed, may give in their names to the secretary's office; and a day will be appointed for the distribution of a quantity now in government stores.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
September 14th, 1806.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Samuel Skinner, of Pitt's Row, begs leave to acquaint his numerous friends and the public in general, that he has just finished burning off a large and capital assortment of earthenware, which for variety, durability, and appearance, he flatters himself cannot be excelled, while his prices will, he trusts, in addition to the quality, maintain a preference which he has thus respectfully to acknowledge.

On Monday last a coroner's inquest assembled on board the Alexander, on the body of John Luker, mariner, whose death was in consequence of his having gone below, and there fallen asleep during a fumigation for the purpose of destroying vermin. Another of the ship's company who had been equally incautious, was apparently at the point of death, but was providentially preserved.

September 28th.

Last Wednesday se'nnight the crops of several settlers in the district of Hawkesbury, sustained some considerable injury from a heavy fall of hail, which lasted almost an hour. Some of the hailstones are said to have been three inches in circumference, from the force of which much of the wheat was laid, and some few patches totally cut down and destroyed. In May 1798, a similar phenomenon occurred, but with this remarkable difference, that the hailstones were twice the size.

On Wednesday morning last a shock of an earthquake was felt at Richmond Hill, of from 28 to 30 seconds duration, the undulation as nearly as could be described, from N. E. to S. W.

Mr. Thompson's fine vessel of 100 tons, built at the Green Hills, is nearly fit for launching, and Mr. Gordon, the shipwright, has, we understand, laid down upon his own account the keel of a vessel to be about 30 tons burthen, in the same neighbourhood.

October 5th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

All masters of vessels coming into this port, are strictly forbid leaving any of their crews, officers, or passengers on shore when they depart, and until that is certified, no clearance is to be granted; and all such respective individuals are likewise forbidden, on any pretence whatever, remaining in the colony without authority from his Excellency the governor.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
October 4th, 1806.

TO BE SOLD,

On the premises, on Saturday next, the 11th of October, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, precisely, a commodious brick Dwelling House and premises, No. 43, Chapel Row, in the occupation of Mr. James John Grant, to which a lease is attached, and eleven years nearly unexpired. The situation is truly desirable, with an extensive garden in the highest state of cultivation, a brick kitchen, with a loft over it, convenient bake-house and oven, a well constantly supplied with water, together with out-houses, pig-styes, &c. — Also, will be sold, a chesnut gelding, warranted safe to ride or drive; a good chaise, with plated harness, saddle, and bridle, and a new Norfolk waggon or carriage, household furniture, &c. consisting of mattresses, looking-glasses, pictures, an elegant and well-toned guitar, dishes, jugs, &c. &c. — Prompt payment to be made in copper coin or approved bills.

SHIP NEWS.

The *Sophia* will sail this day for the Straights and England, and the *Albion* and *Elizabeth* on Tuesday for the fishery. This morning sailed the Honourable Company's extra ship *Sinclair*, for China.

On Tuesday arrived the sloop *Fly*, from Norfolk Island, with five tons of pork, and about 1500 weight of soap manufactured there.

On Thursday his Excellency returned to town from an excursion throughout Hawkesbury and other out-settlements, personally to inquire into the distresses of those who were unhappily impoverished by the inundation.

On Wednesday last Mrs. King left town for Paramatta, and yesterday in the afternoon his Excellency the late governor left town also for the same place.

October 12th.

STOLEN OR STRAYED,

From Captain Abbot's farm at the Devil's Back, about two miles from Prospect, a brindle cow, about 8 years old, has T. S. marked in the horn. She is an English cow about seven months gone with calf, and is well known in the colony by the name of Scott. Whoever has, or may find her, upon their bringing her to me at Arthur's Hill, near Paramatta, or by giving information where she is, if alive and not injured, shall receive five pounds reward.—Any person detaining her after this notice shall be prosecuted according to law.

NICHOLAS BAYLY.

PIPE MANUFACTORY,

No. 3, Brickfield Hill,
Sydney.

Wm. Cluer most respectfully acquaints his customers and the public in general, that on Monday the 13th instant he will have for sale, a kiln of pipes, equal in quality to any manufactured in Great Britain, at 9s. per gross, for ready money only.

On Tuesday his Excellency made an excursion to George's River, and paid a visit at Major Johnston's, where he took refreshment; returned to town at half-past seven in the evening, after a journey of forty miles. The day following his Excellency was pleased to visit all the schools in the town of Sydney, and examine the progress of the pupils, as the best criterion for judging of the capacity and attention of their teachers.

October 26th.

During the late heavy rains his Excellency was at the Nepean, whither he had been accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Marsden, having gone

from Paramatta last Thursday se'nnight, for the purpose of inspecting the wild herds. The same evening he crossed the Nepean, and visited Mr. Davidson, where his Excellency passed the night, and was afterwards prevented by the rise of the water occasioned by the rains, from re-crossing the river until Thursday last. At length he effected the passage over, in a slight canoe, which had been constructed in his presence by a few obliging natives, and the horses were afterwards swum across.

November 9th.

EVENING SCHOOL,

To open on Monday the 17th instant, hours of attendance half-past five to half-past eight.

G. Howe is desirous of receiving under tuition a few pupils, to be instructed in writing, simple, vulgar, and decimal arithmetic, mensuration, many useful arithmetical abbreviations, and the grammar of the English tongue upon the principles of Dr.'s Lowth, Johnson, Priestly, and other celebrated writers, who have united their efforts in improving the grammatical structure of their own beautiful and comprehensive language, which every Englishman ought to be acquainted with, but few attain that have not had the advantage of a classical education. Persons desirous of further explanation, are requested to favour the advertiser with a line.

TAKEN IN MISTAKE,

From the residence of G. Howe, from twelve to fifteen Numbers of the Sydney Gazette, up to October 26, 1806, most of which are marked C. Throsby, Esq. Any person returning the same to G. Howe, will receive twenty shillings for their

trouble, as they will likewise for information whereby they may be recovered.

The following declarations were made by the late executed and truly penitent Murphy, shortly previous to his death, viz. that he hoped to depart in peace with all mankind, and found it a duty to his conscience to declare his guilt in the following offences, while he sincerely advised all his survivors against taking to the woods, a folly from which no single good could be derived, but from which unnumbered ills arose. He had stolen one sheep from the Rev. Mr. Marsden's farm, at the Field of Mars; several fowls from Elliott, at the Northern Boundary; a goat from Richard Partridge; a sheep and two pigs, the property of G. Blaxcell, Esq.; several goats from the Lumber Yard at Paramatta; sundry geese from the farms of Major Johnston and Mr. Laycock; slaughtered a calf in the government stock yard at Toongabbie, a lamb and kid, or two kids, at Leadbeater's farm; stole several articles of wearing apparel from a house at Seven Hills; two goats and an iron pot, from a person whose name he knew not, but the pot may be probably recovered upon application to the printer of this paper.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

A handsome bay horse, fourteen hands high, warranted safe to ride or draw, and perfectly sound. Reference to G. Howe.

November 16th.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

A desirable farm of 150 acres, 20 of which are in cultivation, all free from flood, excellently adapted to trade, and equally so either to stock or agriculture, with a good dwelling

house and barns, a garden and orchard, and all other appurtenances. The property of Thomas Taylor, of whom particulars may be had, on the premises, at Hawkesbury.

BUSH RANGERS.

The daring spirit of those desperate offenders occupies much serious attention at the present moment. It has been some time since clearly ascertained that five of the delinquents advertised had associated themselves and infested the grazing farms in the vicinity of Prospect, where the stock of John M'Arthur, Esq. appears to have been the chief object of their ravages. Five sheep disappeared in the course of one night, notwithstanding great vigilance on the part of the stock-keepers and shepherds, the number of whom had been increased. Night and day they have been harrassed by their daring visitors, their huts plundered as well as the stock, and provisions carried off. Apprehension and alarm have been constant, and their effects in the following instance peculiarly lamentable. John Griffiths and Simeon Donally being out upon the watch on the night of the 8th instant, were suddenly disturbed by the sheep violently rushing to and fro within the fold, which was naturally attributed to an attack from these depredators, in consequence of which Griffiths posted his brother-watchman as advantageously as possible, while he himself should reconnoitre, as well as the darkness of the night admitted, the movements of their adversaries. No sooner had they separated than Donally, from some unaccountable cause, forsook his post, and went within the fold. The other having traversed a considerable part of the circuit, at length descried a human figure, but could scarcely suppose it to be any other than a bush ranger. He hailed him instantly, and thrice repeated the challenge, but receiving no answer, fired upon him, and the charge

having taken place, he very soon discovered the object of his aim to have been no other than the unfortunate Donally, who was mortally wounded in the side. Assistance was procured to take the poor man into his hut, where he soon after expired, and on Monday last a coroner's inquest assembled at Paramatta, but the evidence of the stock-men, who did not attend, being essential, the inquiry was postponed till the day following, when, from the joint testimony of all the witnesses, Griffiths was acquitted by the verdict, of any thing censurable in the unfortunate transaction. It appeared that the deceased, who was an old man, had acted highly imprudently by leaving his post, and more so by going within the fold; that he was much afflicted with deafness, and in all probability did not hear himself challenged, while others at a considerable distance heard it, and that Griffiths was in the most friendly habits with him.

November 23rd.

FOUND,

About six weeks since, at Cockatoo Island, a ship's boat, painted red.—The owner thereof may recover his property by application to William Morrison, soldier, Back Row West.—If not claimed within fourteen days, will be sold to pay expenses.

WANTED,

Ten or twelve good seamen for the snow Commerce, bound to England. None but those who are entirely clear of debts and other incumbrances need apply. For further information apply to James Birnie, commander, either at his residence in Farm Cove, or at Mr. Lords.

On Wednesday se'nnight an elegant entertainment was given by J. Palmer, Esq. to a large party; also another on Wednesday last, by R. Campbell, Esq. at both of which

their Excellencies and his honor the lieutenant-governor were present.

November 30th.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

On terms advantageous to a purchaser, a new chaise with complete harness and brass furniture; two strong carts; a pair of cart wheels, and a pair of chaise ditto, new; two saddles and bridles; all which may be viewed at the house of Serjeant Packer, Pitt's Row.

Two seamen belonging to the Atlantic were killed by lightning on Tuesday night, as they were returning to the vessel in a wood boat, owing very possibly to the attraction of a cross cut saw which lay exposed in the boat. They each received the stroke in the same manner, its visible effects extending from the ear downwards below the breast, which had the appearance of being bruised. On Wednesday an inquest was taken on the bodies—verdict, death, by the visitation of God. One of them was a native of New Zealand.

December 7th.

On Thursday a native dog made his way into a flock of geese at the back of Government House, Paramatta, and, after biting six very badly, carried off two others.

December 14th

On Friday a boat-load of salted fish, amounting to 1300 weight, was brought in by W. Miller, at the Hospital Wharf, and three assistants, the whole procured at and about Port Aikin, in the space of eight

days, and well preserved. Every exertion of this nature lays claim to commendation; and our present necessities will, we trust, stimulate others to follow so worthy an example.

WANTED,

Several steady men, as shepherds, who will receive an ample ration and liberal wages, by applying to Mr. M'Arthur, Paramatta.

January 25th, 1807.

GENERAL ORDERS.

From the date hereof, all persons are forbid going near the government salt-pans in Rose Bay.—Any person or persons coming by water to, or landing near the said premises, (unless with an order signed by his Excellency, and addressed to E. Kinsela, the manager of the salt-works), shall be taken into custody and imprisoned in the county gaol, and all persons coming to the said salt-pans with orders, are severely prohibited from entering the salt-house, unless by permission and in the presence of the said E. Kinsela.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.

Government House, Sydney,
January 20th, 1807.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Mr. Bevan,

At the house of Mr. James Larra, Paramatta, on Monday the 2nd of February, at twelve o'clock precisely, upwards of 200 fine ewes and wethers; also, three commodious houses, pleasantly and eligibly situated at Paramatta, with good gardens in high cultivation and well fenced.—Payment to be made immediately in colonial currency.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,

By Mr. Bevan,

At the Green Hills, Hawkesbury, on Saturday next, a capital grey horse, with an elegant chaise and harness,

brass mounted, and an excellent bay gelding, with good cart and harness complete. Payment to be made in wheat, maize, or swine's flesh at government price, and the purchaser be allowed three months credit on approved security.

At the beginning of last week several prisoners were absent from their respective occupations, and a boat of 18 feet keel, belonging to E. Wills, being also missing, leads to a conjecture of their having taken her away, with the weak design of attempting an escape from the colony, though miserably provided for carrying such a determination into effect, with any other prospect than that of perishing on the coast. As soon as they were missed two armed whale boats were dispatched in pursuit.

February 1st.

Yesterday his Excellency dined with Governor King on board His Majesty's ship Buffalo, together with a large party of officers and ladies.

On Wednesday sailed the snow Harrington for Madras.

February 8th.

COMMUNICATION.

Under the particular state of the colony, the supplies of grain becoming doubtful, his Excellency the governor thought it proper to issue the following notice, "That under the strongest motives of insuring the welfare of the colony, by either sending for supplies or securing them from individuals, he does, by this document, call upon every person to state what quantity of grain they are able and ready to deliver, at the earliest period they will name or can possibly determine on, into the public stores, out of their present and growing

“ crops; and which they will bind themselves to perform, by signing their agreement, as by any other more regular security whatever. The price to be given by government for wheat will be, as already stated in public orders, 14s. 9d. per bushel; and for maize 6s. per bushel, to be delivered either into the public store at Paramatta or Sydney. It is of the utmost consequence that this should immediately be determined, to prevent as much as possible unnecessary importation of grain, an influx of which, from a foreign country, must inevitably tend to keep the colony, as to its agricultural pursuits, in an extreme impoverished situation. And it is hereby declared, in order to give every encouragement to the industrious farmer, that government will, at the ensuing harvest of wheat and maize, give 10s. per bushel for all such quantities of wheat as they may want, and 5s. for maize, such portions being delivered into the public stores; and a preference will be given to those who supply government on the present occasion.”

In consequence of this declaration, the settlers embraced an immediate occasion to call a meeting, for the purpose of taking the subject into timely consideration, and of returning to his Excellency an appropriate answer.—They convened at Mr. Thompson's, whose exertions on the occasion received the warmest thanks, and after a long discussion of the object that had assembled them, it was proposed and adopted, *nemine contradicente*, that it was much the real and permanent interests of the settlement, and colony at large, that every one should contribute as much grain as possibly could be spared from their family consumption, to the present demands of government, individually testifying at the same time, the most unfeigned sense of obligation to his Excellency, whose kind and solicitous attention to the interest of the settlement had

on all occasions manifested itself. It was concluded that a suitable answer should be returned to his Excellency, to which each subscriber should attach his signature, and the complement he was capable of contributing—producing an aggregate amount of 5000 bushels of wheat, and 15,000 of maize, volunteered by about two hundred persons, independent of such other aids as have not yet been collected, but which none will withhold that have a single mite to spare at this very critical juncture. The answer we have the satisfaction also to lay before the public, as follows:

Hawkesbury, Jan. 29th, 1807.

May it please your Excellency,

We, the undersigned holders of landed estates, and principal inhabitants of the Hawkesbury, Portland, Richmond and Nepean settlements, and other adjacent places in this colony, beg leave most respectfully to return our grateful thanks for the unbounded attention, labour and pains, your Excellency in your great wisdom has ever manifested towards us, and the general welfare and prosperity of this colony at large, in the dreadful crisis of general calamity in which you found it. And we, from the highest sense of gratitude and public duty, beg leave to assure your Excellency, while enjoying our native laws and liberty, and living under a just and benign government, we will be ready at all times, at the risk of our lives and properties, to support the same; and, willing to anticipate your Excellency's just and humane wishes for the public relief, we have subscribed all the grain we conveniently can spare from our own support, to be carried to the public stores at your stipulated price—rejecting far greater prices in money, which we could receive at the present market sale: and we hope the quantity already subscribed (with more that may possibly be spared) will furnish your Excellency with means for the present year's support, without re-

verting to the ruinous necessity of importation, which your Excellency, in your wisdom, so justly sees and sets forth; and as these fertile settlements have ever produced a superabundance* of food, as is evident, from the low prices it long sold at, and the great surplus quantities annually spoiled, wasted, and wilfully destroyed; we doubt not, under the blessing of God and your wise measures, that the produce of our lands next season will again be more than abundantly sufficient for the fullest support of the whole territory, in which case we will as readily supply such quantities as your Excellency may require, at your fixed price of next season, and ever endeavour to show ourselves worthy your protection and encouragement, praying for your prosperity, and a long continuance of your just and benign government.

To his Excellency William Bligh,
Esquire, F. R. S. captain-general,
and commander-in-chief,
&c. &c. &c.

On Friday a farewell dinner was given by his Excellency to Governor King, and the officers of His Majesty's ship *Buffalo*, at which his honor the lieutenant-governor and many other officers attended, with their ladies. A ball and supper concluded the evening.

February 15th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

His Excellency the governor laments to find, by his late visit through the colony, that the most calamitous evils have been produced by persons bartering or paying spirits for grain of all kinds, and the necessities of life in general, and to labourers for their hire; such pro-

* Of the justness of this statement, the reader is pretty well enabled to judge.

ceedings depressing the industrious, and depriving the settlers of their comforts.—In order therefore to remedy these grievous complaints, and to relieve the inhabitants who have suffered by this traffic, he feels it his duty to put a total stop to this barter in future, and to prohibit the exchange of spirits or other liquors as payment for grain, animal food, labour, wearing apparel, or any other commodity whatever, to all descriptions of persons in the colony and its dependencies. If a prisoner is convicted before a bench of magistrates of any of the offences above stated, he shall receive a punishment of one hundred lashes, and be sentenced to hard labour for twelve months:—If a settler, free by servitude, pardon or emancipation, he is to be deprived of all indulgencies from the crown, sentenced to three months imprisonment, and to pay a fine of 20*l.* to the King:—If a settler, who came free into the colony, or any other free inhabitants, masters, or any other descriptions of persons on board of ships or vessels, they are to lose all indulgencies granted them by the crown, and pay a fine of 50*l.* to the King; all which fines, on conviction, shall be levied by the provost-marshal, one moiety to be given to the informer, and the other to be at the disposal of the government. His Excellency has the strongest confidence, from the known distress of the colony in consequence of this pernicious barter, that all officers, civil and military, will be aiding and assisting in carrying this order into full execution, which ultimately must tend to relieve the distresses of the people, and to give credit and stability to the settlement at large.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
February 14th, 1807.

The increase of dogs in these settlements having long been a great nuisance, being at all times injurious

to stock, extremely dangerous to children, and no less to persons on horseback, the governor finds it expedient to recommend, in the most decisive manner, that all curs and other useless dogs of every description, be destroyed; a measure which he doubts not will be very generally adopted, and more especially by the families of the poor, whose sustenance must be much diminished in order to feed them, or the wretched animals left to prowl about for food, to the great annoyance of the public.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
February 14th, 1807.

SHIP NEWS.

At two o'clock on Sunday afternoon his Excellency the late governor and family finally embarked on board His Majesty's ship *Buffalo* for England, accompanied to the wharf by his Excellency, who expressed the most sensible regret at taking leave. His honor the lieutenant-governor and many officers attended also, to share in these last attentions. At half-past two, the boat left the wharf, and was saluted by His Majesty's ship *Porpoise* as she passed. The following morning his Excellency's dispatches were put on board, and on Tuesday the ship sailed, Governor King designing to touch at Norfolk Island on his way.

February 22nd.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week Major Johnston.

Yesterday his Excellency gave a dinner to a large party of officers and ladies, at which Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Paterson were present.

His honor the lieutenant-governor will embark on board the *Estramina*

to resume the government at Port Dalrymple. An ample supply of provisions will be sent by the *Estramina* for the relief of the settlement.

By accounts brought from Port Dalrymple by the *Marcia*, we are informed of the death of James Swift, owing to the bite of a snake, he having survived the infliction of the wound only twenty-five minutes.

POSTSCRIPT.

We are happy to announce to the public that by extreme vigilance a most atrocious and wicked plan of insurrection has been averted.—It was planned in a most secret manner by some designing Irish prisoners, who had artfully instilled into the minds of their countrymen, a certainty of taking the country and gaining their liberty. But their means to accomplish those ends were the most horrid;—they were to have destroyed the governor, who they supposed would be going into the country as soon as the *Buffalo* sailed, on his way to the Hawkesbury, and which was to have been the commencement of the general insurrection; the New South Wales Corps were to have been surprised; the leading gentlemen of the colony were to have been killed at the same time; the *Porpoise* and shipping were to have been seized, and a general massacre was to have taken place, so far as to have secured their intended purposes.—Such was the nature of this diabolical plot, when the ringleaders were taken at the same moment by a party of the New South Wales Corps, whose soldier-like conduct, loyalty, and regard for their King and country, deserves the highest praise that can be bestowed on them. This rising of the croggies as it is called, has been more or less in agitation for a long time, they having forgot the calamitous consequences of their insurrection in 1804; and we have further to lament the infatuation of these men, when at the present moment they are, particularly, living

under greater comforts than fall to the lot of the labouring poor of any part of the world, and all of these discontented men would, by good behaviour and industry, become possessed of considerable property. From the foregoing account, the good inhabitants of the country will see what extreme watchfulness is necessary to prevent bloodshed, and the destruction that must follow, if poor, ignorant, and deluded men are suffered to fall a sacrifice to the artifice of a few bad characters.

March 1st.

Yesterday se'night, before a bench of magistrates, the persons concerned in taking away a boat, &c. with intent to escape from the colony, were sentenced to severe corporal punishment. One person, for seditious expressions, was ordered five hundred lashes.

NOTICE.

Whereas some dogs, the property of persons unknown, broke into the enclosures of J. Harris, Esq. at Ultimo Place, near Sydney, and killed several sheep; and as it has lately been the practice of persons to take dogs on the premises to hunt his deer, a reward of fifty guineas will be paid by him to any person who will prosecute to conviction any offender or offenders concerned therein.

N.B. Any dogs hereafter found within Mr. Harris's enclosure will be shot, and the owners prosecuted in case of damage.

March 15th.

We cannot refrain from congratulating all the respectable and honest settlers of this colony, and other loyal inhabitants, on the spirit and resolutions which they have formed on the bloody scene which for these

eighteen months has been in agitation, and of late nearly put into execution. About six hundred loyal persons have come forward, to express their detestation at the plan of insurrection which has been formed. A number of these have honourably offered further to assist in the defence of the country by forming a corps of horse, with which they have pledged themselves to act with vigour on any emergency; under these circumstances we cannot do less than present our readers with the loyal address which has been presented to his Excellency by the settlers of the Hawkesbury, and received by him with confidence and approbation.

" Hawkesbury, Feb. 25th, 1807.

" May it please your Excellency,
 " We, the holders of landed
 " estates, public officers, and the
 " principal inhabitants of the ex-
 " tensive settlements of Hawkes-
 " bury, Portland, Richmond, and
 " Nepean, and parts adjacent, in
 " New South Wales, beg leave to
 " return our sincere thanks for
 " your wise and unwearied solici-
 " tude for the public welfare, at all
 " times, in your arduous and im-
 " portant station, over these settle-
 " ments, now rising again from late
 " calamities unto happiness and
 " opulence, under a just, equitable,
 " and gracious government, which
 " we, impressed with the strongest
 " desire to support with our lives, as
 " being the bounden duty in all
 " loyal subjects, have willingly
 " according to your Excellency's
 " order, enrolled our names for the
 " defence of the country, in which
 " we will readily participate at all
 " times of need; but sincerely hope,
 " that your Excellency in your wis-
 " dom, by judging from the real
 " and presumptive proofs exhibited
 " in this country now, and for many
 " years past, by those disaffected
 " people, of their relentless and in-
 " corrigible spirit of rebellion, mur-
 " der, and atrocity, keeping liege
 " subjects in constant alarm, that

“ you will be graciously pleased to dispose of the ringleaders and principals so as to prevent future conspiracy amongst them, and to restore public tranquillity, which blessing of peace and happiness may your Excellency long continue to give and enjoy in your government over us, is our earnest prayer.”

—
March 22nd.

The following is his Excellency's answer to the address of the loyal inhabitants of Hawkesbury, &c.

“ Government House, Sydney,
“ March 19th, 1806.

“ To Thomas Arndell, Esq. magistrate at the Green Hills.

“ Sir,

“ I have received your letter of the 12th instant, with the address of the loyal inhabitants of the Nepean and Hawkesbury, on the late intended insurrection, and you will please to express the confidence and satisfaction which I have felt on the occasion; and to assure the numerous loyal persons who have signed it, of my watchfulness of their interests and welfare in this colony, which has been formed by the best of sovereigns, under the highest considerations of humanity for the benefit of mankind,

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your most obedient

“ Humble servant,

“ WILLIAM BLIGH.”

—
March 29th.

On Wednesday his honor lieutenant-governor Paterson with his lady embarked on board the Lucy for Port Dalrymple, and was saluted on his departure.

April 12th.

On Thursday the snow Commerca returned from the Penantipodes, where she received on board 39,000 cured skins for the London market, and will prosecute her voyage as soon as she has undergone some requisite repairs, having suffered much damage by stress of weather, and her upper works proving leaky.—She touched on that part of the coast of New Zealand which is governed by our late visitor Tippahee, where Captain Bierney was given to understand that the Venus, which was piratically seized and taken away from Port Dalrymple, had been there, and Kelly left behind with Lancashire; that the former had been taken by the master of the Britannia, and went home a prisoner; that the latter had also been made prisoner, and was taken away in the Brothers. The vessel is supposed to be still wandering about the coast, as she had no navigator on board; and no possible prospect can present itself to those that remain in her, but to perish by the hands of the natives, or to fall into the hands of justice. The old chief behaved with his usual frankness and civility, and produced to the captain presents of potatoes, and whatsoever else the place afforded. Some maize which he took from here he sowed, and was gratified in the promise of an excellent return: fatally, however, a horde of his own subjects fell upon his little corn-field when the cob was about three-parts filled, and in one night devoured every grain. Opposing perseverance to this first mischance, he applied his whole reserved stock to the purposes of agriculture, and has since succeeded to his wish.

—
April 19th.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week John Harris, Esq.

SHIP NEWS.

The General Wellesley to sail early in the week for the Prince of Wales's Island, intending to call at New Zealand to procure spars.

On Friday the Ferret whaler made the Heads in seven days from Hobart Town, and put to sea again, having landed dispatches for his Excellency from Lieutenant-Governor Collins.

Information is received that a land communication between Port Dalrymple and Hobart Town has been effected by a small party under the direction of Lieutenant Laycock, of the New South Wales Corps, who with a slender stock of provisions, set out from the former settlement, and in nine days traversed the whole extent of country which separates the two settlements. He was received in the most cordial manner by the lieutenant-governor and officers, who joined in sentiments of admiration at the resolution which had inspired the undertaking, and the great exertion that was indispensable to its accomplishment.

June 7th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

It having appeared to his Excellency, that notwithstanding the merciful intentions of our Most Gracious Sovereign in permitting persons to be sent to this colony who have forfeited their lives, and others to expiate the offences they have committed against the laws of their country, under most benign and peculiar directions to the encouragement of better conduct and virtue; yet some designing men have endeavoured to subvert the government of this colony, and meditated an attempt at massacre, and the shedding of much innocent blood whilst they were receiving most gracious indulgences; and whereas all those calamities would have taken place

but for two men, Dominick M'Curry and Daniel Grady, who, shuddering at such atrocious acts, did give information, whereby the offenders were apprehended and the misery prevented. His Excellency, therefore, taking into his most serious consideration the loyal dispositions of those men, does grant unto each of them, the said Dominick M'Curry and Daniel Grady, a free pardon.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.

Government House, Sydney,
June 4th, 1807.

Thursday last being the anniversary of His Majesty's birth, the customary salutes were fired. At half-past one his Excellency received the congratulations of all the officers and many other gentlemen on the occasion; and in the evening a splendid ball was given at Government House to all the commissioned officers and other gentlemen with their ladies.

The odious project which has happily been laid open, had been in agitation for upwards of a twelve-month; the secret informations received by government rendered vigilance necessary, and every precaution that had been adopted was immediately succeeded by a change of measures among the principal agents in the work of intended massacre, and had their plots succeeded to their wish, dreadful indeed had been the fate of all whom reason, loyalty, and humanity must inspire with sentiments of abhorrence and disgust at their intended plan of operations.

Regretting the necessity which rendered the suspension of this publication unavoidable, we have used every exertion as speedily as possible to resume our labours, and a small unexpected supply of paper enables us once more to court the attention of our readers. We have frequently been reduced to the necessity of varying the size, shape, and very

colour of the paper, and probably none of the transitions that have marked our progress have been more observable than in the present instance. This want of uniformity may have afforded matter of complaint, which must necessarily give way to the reflection that as the hue of the camelion is regulated by accident, so have we been tributary to the same capricious ruler. To those who wish to preserve our numbers, it has been an acknowledged inconvenience; but let it be remembered that all our eccentricities have been imposed by insurmountable necessity.

June 21st.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday arrived his imperial majesty the Emperor of Russia's ship *Neva*, Captain Hagemaster, on her passage to the island of Kadjack, on the N.W. coast of America, with stores for the use of the Russian settlement there. She sailed from Cronstadt the 2nd of November last, and from Elsinour the latter end of the same month. The 10th of January touched at St. Salvadore, and left that place the 9th of March, with intention to go round Cape Horn; but being too late for the season, called here to wood and water. This vessel was one of the two that were expected to call here in 1804, on discovery, but has since returned to Russia, and is now on her second voyage. The officers and crew are in good health. She is a handsome vessel, nearly 400 tons, and carries 14 guns. Her stay will be but short.

Sailed on Wednesday for Otaheite the schooner *Paramatta*, Captain Glyn, for a cargo of pork.

July 12th.

The name of the man who was

unhappily killed some days since at Hawkesbury by the breech of a musket which he had discharged, was Henry Abbott. He was servant to Mr. Crossley at Richmond. The accident was no less shocking than remarkable. He took the piece up to fire at a crow, and was seen to fall as soon as the explosion was made. A messenger was dispatched to the Green Hills for surgical assistance, and Mr. Surgeon Mason arrived with wonderful dispatch. The head of the unfortunate man was dreadfully shattered; the breech penetrated the pericranium and lodged in the brain, where it lay buried for upwards of two hours, during which the poor man was never heard to utter a groan, but as soon as it was extracted he spoke collectedly, and inquired *whether there was any hope?* but his case admitted none. — He spoke several times after with much precision, then recited the greater part of the multiplication table, and in about four hours expired.

July 19th.

The natives report their having seen the body of a man among the shoals in Botany Bay, about twelve feet under water, supposed to be the body of the late George Legg, who was unfortunately drowned near that place a few weeks since.

July 26th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Whereas his Excellency Governor Phillip did, by instructions from His Majesty's ministers, draw two lines of demarkation in the vicinity of Sydney, within which, no leases or grants of land for building were to be given, the said land being the property of the crown, — And whereas, a number of houses adjacent to Government House, to its

great annoyance, now occupied by *David Dickinson Mann, Abraham Ramsden, John Apsey, William Kimber, John Shea, Ferdinand Mewant,* and others, within the said limits, have been built on land particularly marked out as making part of the domain of the governor's residence; the governor is pleased to extend the notice already given to the first day of November next, at which time they, the present occupiers, are required and directed to quit possession of the said houses, taking away or disposing of their materials, the said grounds being wanted for government purposes. His Excellency the governor is ready, on application to that effect, to grant permission to the said persons to build on such other ground, unoccupied, in the town of Sydney, as may not interfere with his arrangements on that head.

By command of his Excellency,
E. GRIFFIN, Sec.
Government House, Sydney,
July 23rd, 1807.

SHIP NEWS.

Yesterday sailed the American brig *Hannah* and *Sally* for Canton; for which market she has taken 20,000 seal skins.

August 9th.

SHIP NEWS.

On Friday arrived the *Resource*

and *Venus* from Kingstown. Yesterday morning came in the *Hope* from thence with several tons of fine potatoes, which grow there in vast abundance.

August 16th.

Wednesday last being the anniversary of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales's birth, it was observed as a holiday throughout the colony; the day was ushered in with the ringing of bells, the royal standard was displayed at Fort Phillip, and all the shipping in the port were decorated with their colours. At twelve the New South Wales Corps fired three volleys, which were followed by the Sydney Loyal Association; immediately after which, a royal salute was fired from the battery at Dawes's Point, and at one o'clock by His Majesty's ship *Porpoise*, and several merchant vessels. In the evening Government House was illuminated, and every circumstance concurred in evincing those exalted sentiments of respect and attachment to a virtuous and accomplished prince, which characterise a brave and independent people.

On Thursday his Excellency gave an elegant supper to a select party of officers and other gentlemen and ladies, that day completing the first year of his government.

CHAPTER XXV.

Arrest of Governor Bligh.

On the 26th of January (1808) an event took place, most extraordinary in its nature and distressing in its consequences. Colonel Johnston, the commanding officer of the New South Wales Corps, marched at its head to the house of the governor, and put him under a strict arrest. This transaction, there being no lieutenant-governor on the spot, was followed by his taking upon himself, as the officer highest in rank, the government of the colony. He also immediately suspended the judge-advocate, the commissary, the chaplain, the provost-marshal and several magistrates, and made some new appointments.

A proceeding of this nature is not adopted without some alleged ground. This officer accordingly assigned the reasons of his conduct, in a letter some time after to the secretary of state. He had, prior to the event in question, written to the commander-in-chief, upon what he conceived to be Mr. Bligh's treatment of the military.

A considerable partial discontent had for some time existed in the colony. To this, several causes had contributed. Amongst the principal of these, was the circumstance of the governor's having ordered several houses to be removed, from ground which had originally been set apart as government property,—and this in some instances in defiance of leases officially granted by the former governor. This proceeding was represented by Mr. Bligh's opponents, both in a light of cruelty and as a violation of private property. He was further represented by them as having tyrannically obstructed the legal course of justice both in civil and criminal matters. They taxed him in general with an administration of his office, harsh and vexatious beyond what human nature is formed to bear; and they added to these complaints an accusation, that by manners the most offensive and overbearing, he had disgusted all ranks of people.

As the subsequent trial of Colonel Johnston in England, necessarily involved an inquiry into Governor Bligh's conduct, it would be out of order to anticipate the result of that laborious and able investigation. At present, we may observe that circumstances of small comparative importance, have sometimes a very dispro-

portioned effect. A scrupulous regard for the rights and interests of others, so decidedly comprehends all that is noble and excellent in our nature, that its very appearance is valued next to the thing itself, as a profession of, and homage to this great principle; nor is the absence of this appearance always compensated by the best intentions. The foibles of the quarter-deck are least offensive in their proper element; yet the greatest naval commander that ever existed, thought it not unworthy the other distinctions of his glorious life, to have contributed by his example to reform them.

There is, besides this, a degree of forbearance, which the sense of mankind seems to prescribe as essential to the perfect conduct of all human affairs. The adage which, in the language of paradox, makes the highest justice to be the highest injury, is thought to mask a great truth; yet it refers to cases of positive right: but when we tread even for a moment those doubtful shades that involve most things, it is felt with augmented force. Mr. Bligh's conscious integrity might still have required the addition of that spirit of conciliation, which has sometimes distinguished the greatest characters in public life.

It remains to mention the immediate cause, that seems to have led to these distressing events, and which may be considered as the spark that fell upon the train which circumstances had already prepared. A gentleman of the name of M'Arthur, who had formerly been an officer in the New South Wales Corps, had, in consequence of the encouragement held out at one period to the military to take and farm allotments of land, become a settler. Mr. M'Arthur appears to have with extreme diligence and attention, employed a very active mind, in the pursuit of almost every object that could tend to the supply of those wants, to which a young colony under such circumstances, was exposed. He had brought his allotment into a state of uncommon cultivation, he had increased and improved beyond any reasonable hope, the several sorts of live stock, and had in short been so successful in a variety of particulars, as to attract the notice of government at home. On his revisiting England he was examined before the privy council, with a view more especially to the quality of the wool which had been produced on his lands, and which was now considered as a national object. In consequence of this examination and of the further inquiries

of ministers, he was presented by the secretary of state, with a grant of five thousand acres of land, of such quality and in such situations, as were most likely to promote the views of the legislature with respect to the colony, and likewise no doubt as an acknowledgment of exertions, which had contributed eminently to relieve it from its abject state of miserable dependence, for even common necessities, and also to open further prospects of the most encouraging kind.

Mr. M'Arthur had been part owner of a vessel, that traded to Otaheite for salted pork and other objects for the supply of the colony. At a time that this vessel was lying at Sydney, it seems that he received a summons from Mr. Atkins, the judge-advocate, to appear before him, to answer a charge on the part of the crew of this vessel, of withholding from them their wages; in consequence of which, they alleged that they had been compelled to break through the port orders, by coming on shore without a special order. To this, the party summoned returned an answer in writing, explanatory of his conduct in the matter in question. It appears, that he had given due notice to the seamen, of their dismissal from his service, the vessel being in a state of deten-

tion, in consequence of a convict's having escaped in her to Otaheite, and the forfeiture of the penal bond being claimed. He neglected however a literal obedience to the summons, by appearing in person. This was construed into an act of contumacy, which some attributed to a feeling of personal resentment towards the governor. The touching upon this point, forces us into an anticipation of some circumstances, that were afterwards adduced upon Colonel Johnston's trial. It was there stated to the court, that Mr. M'Arthur had met the governor, not long after his arrival in the colony, at the house of the former governor (King), and respectfully inviting him to take a view of the improvements on his estate, particularly as to what regarded the production of wool, which had already been considered as a national object deserving of the notice of His Majesty's government, the application was treated by Mr. Bligh with a coarseness, rudeness, and seeming hostility, the more galling, as the person in question had rather hoped, that his exertions as a cultivator and colonist, were entitled to praise and encouragement, and he was of course unprepared for so mortifying a repulse. With what justice his conduct on the occasion of the summons was, in consequence of these

or any other circumstances, attributed to personal feelings matured into a spirit of opposition to the authority of the governor, is best known to the individual himself. Such a motive, as tending to obstruct the public administration of the colony, would not be defensible. It must be owned however, that his ample and dispassionate letter to the judge-advocate, (produced also on the trial,) does not favour such a conclusion. Be this as it may, a warrant was issued against him by the judge-advocate. The production of this warrant, at his house, late at night and in the midst of his family; appears to have been a great surprise upon his feelings, which he considered it as pointedly intended to wound. He expressed himself on the occasion, with strong emotions of resentment, and even treated the warrant, (with which he refused compliance), as an illegal interference with his private concerns. He was however arrested upon a second one, in the town of Sydney, and on the 25th of January, was brought before the judge-advocate and the six officers, who were assembled to form the criminal court. Mr. M'Arthur now objected to the competency of the judge-advocate, in the case before them, on the principle of his harbouring an inveterate enemy

towards him. He stated specifically the grounds of this objection, which he pressed them to receive in writing. He observed that the judge-advocate, uniting the character of juror with that of judge, was in reason subject to the laws of challenge. On this topic he dwelt with considerable information, as it regarded jurors in general, and succeeded in persuading his hearers, that even in the case of a judge-advocate, the inconvenience now complained of, could not be without its legal remedy. The judge-advocate, who had sworn in the six officers but had not yet been sworn in by them, vehemently contended against the entertaining of any such objections or documents, suggesting at the same time that without him they were no court, and must of course act wholly without authority. The officers however, overruled this objection, and under the influence of the arguments advanced by Mr. M'Arthur, applied to the governor for a supersession of the judge-advocate in this particular cause. The governor denied his possessing any authority to comply with their demand. The judge-advocate, at the same time, presented a memorial against them, (the officers), on the ground of their proceeding being a treasonable offence. The governor summoned

them to appear before him. Mr. M'Arthur, who had before been bailed, was next morning committed to prison. A belief now became prevalent, that this affair had arrived at a stage, which considering the opposition of sentiments, between the governor and the six officers, would certainly affect the personal liberty of these latter. The commandant of the troops, who had been confined for some time at a few miles distance by an accident, at this crisis entered the town, where he found every thing, as he afterwards alleged, in a state of ferment and confusion, and himself surrounded by the clamours of a number of individuals, amongst whom were several of the civil officers, importuning him to put the governor in arrest. With these importunities, he, as we have seen, complied.

*Sydney Gazette; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
May 15th, 1808.*

GENERAL ORDERS.

Cows and oxen will be delivered at Paramatta, on Friday the 20th instant, to those persons who have put wheat into His Majesty's stores for the purchase of live stock.

By command of his honor
the lieutenant-governor,
JOHN M'ARTHUR,
Secretary to the Colony.
Sydney, May 15th, 1808.

Wheat sells at Sydney from 10s. to 12s. per bushel.

The cause of grain producing such excellent prices at this time of the year, after so favourable a harvest as the last, is however in a great measure to be accounted for from its great consumption, compared with former seasons. Instead of 12lbs. of wheat, which was the former weekly issue to those victualled from the stores, the present issue amounts to 18lbs. which consequently must occasion a weekly consumption of one half more, a circumstance very favourable to the growers.

The next Gazette will contain the arrival and departure of vessels that have taken place since the 30th of August last, from which date the publication has been suspended.

No doubt can be entertained of the very beneficial consequences that must accrue from the general distribution made by government of breeding cattle, in exchange for the produce of the ground. We may now look forward to the comforts derived from a proper attention to the dairy; and if a reduction in the price of cattle, and consequently of

all the species of animal food, is to be effected, this certainly must be considered the most likely means of producing so desirable a change.

SHIP NEWS.

On Tuesday the Resource government vessel came in with coals and cedar from Hunter's River. She brought accounts of the arrival there of the Fly colonial vessel, on Monday the 2nd instant, with the loss of three of her crew out of five, who were murdered by the coast natives at Bateman's Bay a few days before. The Fly sailed from thence for Kangaroo Island some weeks since; but being overtaken by bad weather and contrary winds, was obliged to take shelter in Bateman's Bay, and to send on shore for water. Three unfortunate persons whose fate it was to fall under the barbarity of the natives, were sent on shore with a cask, having previously arranged a mode of receiving an alarm from the vessel, in case of obvious danger, by the discharge of a musket. Shortly after they landed, a body of natives assembled about the boat, and a musket was accordingly discharged from the vessel—the unfortunate men returned precipitately to their boat, without any obstruction from the natives, but had no sooner put off from the shore than a flight of spears was thrown, which was continued until the three fell from their oars. The savages immediately took and manned the boat, and with a number of canoes prepared to attack the vessel; which narrowly escaped their fury by cutting the cable, and standing out to sea. The names of the murdered men were, Charles Freeman, Thomas Bly, and Robert Goodlet.

On Saturday the 30th ultimo, the Governor Hunter sailed for Hobart Town, with 1000 bushels of wheat for government.

We have once more the satisfaction of rendering our services to the public. We have had repeatedly to lament the necessity of vying with the camellion in change of colour, and of being compelled to rival the prophetic son of Oceanus, in the frequency of change that has been given to our shape. To necessity we cannot dictate. As servants of the public, assiduity is our duty, and commendation our hoped reward. A supply of paper guarantees the promise of a continuance of this publication, until other arrivals may take place; and should our adverse destinies to any great length of time protract so desirable an event, we hope, nevertheless, in all the lively tints with which the Chinese favour us in their paper, still to prosecute our labours, until re-lecting fate shall put a period to our vicissitudes. This Gazette is printed upon a half sheet of demy; the pages made up to the very extent of our press:—and without hesitation we have to observe, that the present two pages, compressed as the matter is, contain fully as much as four pages of pot folio, to which size we adhered for several months. We have now likewise to remark, that as inactivity is the parent of embarrassment, we find it needful to deviate from the former mode of collecting the subscription money; which will be applied for monthly instead of quarterly: the terms three shillings upon the delivery of every fourth paper. And as the price of paper is known to be very exorbitant, we request that all arrears of subscription may be paid up in the course of the present month, in order that we may be enabled to take advantage of the first arrival, by a first purchase, instead of being reduced to the necessity of going to a second or third market; in which case we

shall have an opportunity of reducing the subscription.

All letters, orders, and advertisements will be received at the *Shakespeare*.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week *W. Lawson, Esq.*

Assize of bread until Saturday next, wheaten bread 9d. and household 5d. per loaf.

May 22nd.

PIRATICAL SEIZURE OF THE BRIG HARRINGTON.

On Monday morning last this vessel was missed from her anchorage in Farm Cove, which was directly in view of Captain Campbell's house there. Between eight and nine the captain reported the extraordinary circumstance to his honor the lieutenant-governor, who issued immediate orders for a search to be made to discover whether any of the convict workmen were absent; the result of which was, that one Stewart, and several others had not joined their work that morning. Upon further inquiry it next appeared, that a vessel had been seen at daylight from South Head, standing off; from which joint circumstances, no further doubt was to be entertained of her having been taken away by a body of desperadoes. A small vessel called the *Halcyon*, was manned about nine o'clock, and with ten privates of the New South Wales Corps, commanded by Serjeant Windsor, was towed out to pursue the delinquents, accompanied by a fleet of boats, filled with other parties of the military and a number of officers and inhabitants who volunteered on the occasion; but so dead was the calm that prevailed within the Heads, that it was dark before the *Halcyon* could make any kind of

progress, and the small boats were obliged to put back; the Harrington being then out of sight for many hours. Between three and four in the afternoon Mr. Fisk, chief officer of the Harrington, arrived with the hands belonging to her, in two boats, who jointly report, that about ten on Sunday night, while the vessel was riding at two anchors, the ship's company being in bed within the steerage, Mr. Fisk was suddenly awaked in his cabin by two men at his bed-side, one of whom held a pistol to his head, and commanded him to be silent, on pain of instant death; that others had proceeded in the same manner to the steerage; unshipped the rudder, and menaced also with immediate death the first that should offer to make any alarm; that the villains appeared to be very numerous, that they cut away both anchors, and towed the vessel out; and that at about seven in the morning, when upwards of twenty miles at sea, they had ordered Mr. Fisk and the crew to go on deck, one by one, in which order they were put into two boats, and sent away from the vessel. Captain Campbell, who was owner as well as commander of the vessel, had intended to sail for the Fejees during the present week; and had provided all necessaries for the voyage. The whole of Monday being employed in a pursuit that proved ineffectual, the Pegasus was the next day taken up for the purpose of following the delinquents; but as she had only her standing rigging up, much exertion was necessary to the emergency of the case. The government artificers and indeed every hand that could be usefully employed were immediately set to work; and with such wonderful energy was it prosecuted, that in less than twenty-four hours she was equipped, and furnished with water and provisions, several carriage guns, many stands of arms, sufficient ballast, and every thing else necessary for the expedition. On Wednesday afternoon she went out, having on

board Captain Symonds, Captain Bunker with his first and second officers, Captain Graham, and Captain Campbell, Mr. Fisk, and part of the Harrington's crew, the military detachment consisting of Serjeants Johns and Stadley, two corporals and twenty privates, of His Majesty's New South Wales Corps. It is a fortunate circumstance, that the gentlemen above mentioned are well acquainted with the navigation of these seas, which must give them a considerable advantage over the fugitives, who have neither an anchor, boat, or time-piece on board, and to procure which they must of necessity commit some new enormity, which may tend, in all probability, to their immediate capture, should the Pegasus not come up with them beforehand. It is supposed their intent is to run away for the Bay of Islands, for the purpose of attempting the seizure of the American brig *Eliza*, which sailed thither the 22nd of last month from hence, as they might thereby supply their wants, and at the same time make themselves masters of all the specie Captain Coley took for his cargo at this port. Should this turn out to be their plan, the Pegasus will, we trust, soon fall in with them, as there is much reason to suppose that Captain Campbell will make this the first part of his pursuit.

—
May 29th.

TO BE LET, with immediate possession,

A complete blacksmith's shop, situate in Back Row East, containing two capital forges with bellows and apparatus complete, large anvil, and all other requisites.—For particulars apply to John Colles, No. 34, in the said Row.

SHIP NEWS.

Sailed on Wednesday morning the ship *City of Edinburgh*, for Norfolk Island, to aid in removing

the settlers to Hobart on the River Derwent; for which latter place she had on board 360 tierces of salt provisions, and a quantity of slop clothing.

June 5th.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

Six farms in the district of Concord, contiguous, in the whole 225 acres, with a good dwelling-house, barn, stable, stock-houses, and a capital stock yard; two acres of garden ground enclosed, in high cultivation, well stocked with fruit trees, chiefly oranges, lemons, and apples, and twelve acres of orchard, partly stocked with fruit trees.—Also 20 cows in calf. Any person inclined to purchase the above are desired to make application to G. Howe.

TIN MANUFACTORY.

G. Dowling begs leave to inform the public that all articles in the above branch may be purchased of him at unusually low prices.—All orders for articles not made up will be complied with at a short notice, and in a neat and durable manner.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Juvenile Essay cannot obtain a place at present, on account of its extreme length.—We nevertheless acknowledge our obligation to the young performer.

BIRTH.

On Thursday evening the lady of John M'Arthur, Esq. of a daughter.

June 12th.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week, Captain Abbott.

Assize of bread as before.

Yesterday a bench of magistrates assembled, before whom appeared—

James Tracey, for absenting himself from his master early in May, and continuing absent until within a few days since. The prisoner stated, that he had, in company with two others set out to cross the mountains in quest of a hitherto undiscovered settlement; the chimerical existence of which has proved fatal to many ignorant and credulous adventurers; that they had crossed three ridges of mountains; that they subsisted during their absence upon flour, with a small quantity of which they had equipped themselves, mixed with water. His master was present at the examination, and gave the prisoner a character which weighed with the bench in mitigation of the punishment which his offence of absconding from his labour, must otherwise have drawn upon him; but as it was necessary at the same time by example to deter others from similar misdeeds, he was sentenced to one hundred lashes.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday arrived the *Santa Anna*, Captain Moody, from Norfolk Island, where she arrived the 19th ultimo, after an absence of two months and eighteen days, having been driven considerably to the northward, and encountered much bad weather.

By Capt. Moody we are informed, that His Majesty's schooner *Estramina* had sailed from Norfolk Island the 19th ultimo, with as many settlers as she could take, for the River Derwent; and that upwards of forty families, with their stock and baggage were getting in readiness to embark on board the *City of Edinburgh*, as soon as she should arrive; which will sensibly diminish the present remaining number of inhabitants of the island, the total evacuation of which will now shortly be accomplished. The last maize crop there, is reported to have been very favourable; though the price of that

species of grain when the above vessel came away, was 7s. a bushel, and wheat considerably higher.

The American brig *Eliza*, Captain Corey, had touched at Norfolk, and sailed for the Fejees the 19th ultimo.

JOHN WALDRON,

Rope Maker,

Begs leave respectfully to inform owners and commanders of vessels, that he intends immediately to commence his said business (to which he was regularly bred) on an extensive scale; as also that of twine-spinning; for the performance of which he has provided implements, and is now ready to accomplish any order with which he may be favoured.

Several persons have absconded from the settlement at Kingstown, some of whom are notorious characters.

July 3rd.

Sydney.—Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week, Captain Abbott.

SHIP NEWS.

On Thursday arrived from King's Island the schooner *Endeavour*, with 1400 seal skins, and 600 sea elephant's teeth, the latter of which

are said to be in high estimation among the natives of the Fejees.

A settler at the Field of Mars informs us, that between seven and eight on Friday morning a fall of snow took place near the Brush Farm, but dissolved as soon as it reached the ground.

July 10th.

In many parts of the settlement the wheat sowing for the next crop is finished, and time will now be found for threshing for present supply. Seed put in during the whole of May is for the most part in a very promising state, and in some instances rather too forward.

July 24th.

SHIP NEWS.

On Friday returned the *Pegasus*, after an unsuccessful cruise of nine weeks in search of the *Harrington*. She was last off Tongataboo, and returned by the way of New Caledonia; having for some weeks past felt severely a scarcity of provisions, as she took on board only a sufficiency for six weeks for fifty men, and the actual number were fifty-eight, including the military detachment.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Arrival of Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux.

ON the 28th of July Lieutenant-Governor Colonel Foveaux arrived in the colony. He was on his way to take on him the government of Norfolk Island, and was ignorant of the events that had passed at Sydney. He now took on him the government of New South Wales, in the room of Colonel Johnston.

Governor Bligh, who had been confined in his house, with the permission of only sometimes walking in the garden attended by a military guard, was still continued under arrest.

*Sydney Gazette; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
August 7th, 1808.*

SHIP NEWS.

On Sunday last the brig Fox was got afloat, after remaining under water since the night of Wednesday the 20th ultimo, when she was discovered to be on fire between decks, a little after seven in the evening, but being scuttled, she filled and went down before ten. In the confusion that prevailed a young man was drowned, whose body was found floating on Friday.

August 14th.

SHIP NEWS.

On Monday last sailed the Albion whaler for the fishery. Yesterday sailed the Dundee for the Fejees, to procure sandal-wood for China.

September 25th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux has directed Ensign A. C. H. Villiers, of the New South Wales Corps, to hold himself in readiness to proceed to Newcastle, to take the command at that settlement. Ensign Villiers is appointed a magistrate for the county of Northumberland. Head Quarters, Sept. 11, 1808.

Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant E. Lord, of the Royal Marines, to be a magistrate in the county of Buckinghamshire, in the settlement under the command of Lieutenant-Governor Collins, at Van Dieman's Land. Head Quarters, Sept. 13, 1808.

September 18th.

SHIP NEWS.

On Thursday sailed the ship Rose, Captain Brooks, for England, with a cargo of oil and skins.

October 2nd.

A young woman of good character, and without incumbrance, being desirous of returning to Great Britain, would be happy to engage as servant to a lady, or to take the charge of a child or two on the passage.—Will have no objection to furnish her own provisions.—A line to A. B. left at the house of G. Howe, will be punctually attended to.

October 23rd.

SHIP NEWS.

On Sunday last arrived the brig Elizabeth from the Fejees, with about 120 tons of sandal wood; having lost four of her crew, who were murdered by the natives of those islands.

November 6th.

Some of the settlers at Richmond will begin to reap in about a fortnight; the wheat looks remarkably well, and is expected to yield abundantly.

November 13th.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday arrived the City of Edinburgh, Captain Pattison, from Norfolk Island and Hobart Town. She sailed from hence the 25th of May for Norfolk Island, and reached it the 5th of June, but was blown off for several weeks, during which she sprung her fore-yard. From Norfolk Island she sailed with 264 passengers, with their property, for Hobart Town, where she arrived the 5th of October.

November 20th.

William Nash, a fine boy about thirteen years of age, died a few days since at the Nepean, in consequence of the bite of a snake, which was almost immediately succeeded by a lethargy, in which state he lived several hours.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday arrived the Speke, from England, with ninety-seven female prisoners, in a healthy state, having lost only one on the passage. Arrived also, passengers in the same ship, Captain Porteus, Lieutenant Oxley, Mr. Surgeon McMillan, of His Majesty's ship Porpoise, and Mr. Harris, a private gentleman.

December 11th.

Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux intending to distribute two hundred cows amongst the settlers, and others cultivating farms, at the rate of 28*l.* per head in exchange for wheat at 10*s.* per bushel, for the use of government; such persons as wish to avail themselves of this arrangement, are desired to send a return to the acting commissary, of the number they mean to apply for. The distribution will commence as soon as a quantity of wheat sufficient

for the purchase of fifty head shall be taken in; but no cattle will be issued to any person whatever, who does not produce the storekeeper's receipt for the wheat; and care will be taken that none but good breeding cows, and such as may prove serviceable to the purchasers, will be disposed of upon the occasion.

By command of his honor

the lieutenant-governor,

JAMES FINUCANE, Sec.

Head Quarters, Sydney,

December 3rd, 1808.

December 18th.

COURT OF CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

On Thursday morning at ten the court assembled, when Mr. George Sutter, of Baulkham Hills, settler, was placed at the bar, and indicted, for having directed to His Honor the lieutenant-governor a letter, containing certain contumelious expressions, with intent to bring into contempt his honor's authority in this territory, &c. The indictment being gone through and Mr. Sutter called upon to plead, he replied, "Gentlemen, I deny the legality of this court; you may do with myself as you please; my unfortunate wife and family I leave to the mercy of God, until peace shall be restored in the colony: I have nothing more to say." The judge-advocate then addressed the prisoner as follows:—"Mr. Sutter, you are called upon to plead to your indictment; and whatever you may have to offer in your defence will be attentively considered. I again ask; Are you guilty or not guilty?" Prisoner—"Sir, all that I have to say I have already said. I deny the legality of this court. My allegiance is due to Governor Bligh, and Governor Bligh alone; and every drop of blood within my veins prevents me from ever acknowledging the legality of this court."

" You may do with me as you think proper." Judge-advocate—" Mr. Sutter, it is my duty to acquaint you, that it is provided by act of parliament, that in case a prisoner shall refuse to plead to his indictment, the effect will be the same as if he pleaded guilty. Once more I call upon you—Are you guilty or not guilty?" Prisoner—" I stand as before : I have said all I have to say ; you are to do with me as you think proper." The court was ordered to be cleared, and in about twenty minutes re-opened, when the judge-advocate addressed the prisoner as follows:—" Prisoner at the bar, in consequence of your

" refusal to plead to your indictment, the court, in conformity to act of parliament, have found you guilty, and sentence you to be imprisoned six calendar months, and to pay a fine of one shilling.

We do not remember the peach at any former season to be more forward than at present. In the garden of Mr. Underwood, in the High Street, the fruit on one particular tree has almost attained its full size and flavour, and many other gardens gratify us with early instances of maturity, almost equally remarkable.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Arrival of Lieutenant-Governor Paterson.

ON the 1st of January 1809, Lieutenant-Governor Colonel Paterson arrived at Sydney from Port Dalrymple, and took upon him the government of the colony, as being superior in rank to Colonel Foveaux. Governor Bligh's arrest was continued; but on the 4th of February, an agreement was entered into between him and Colonel Paterson, that he should again be put into possession of his ship the Porpoise, upon the express condition of "his embarking
 " with his family on the 20th, and putting to
 " sea as soon after as wind and weather would
 " permit; of his then proceeding to England
 " with the utmost dispatch, and of engaging
 " neither to touch at, nor return to, any part
 " of the territory of New South Wales, until
 " he should have received His Majesty's in-
 " structions or those of his ministers; and fur-
 " ther, that he would not in any manner or
 " under any pretence whatever, while he
 " remained in the colony, interfere in the
 " government or affairs thereof."

In consequence of this agreement, Governor Bligh was released from his state of arrest and put into possession of his ship. Finding himself at length, however, at liberty, and not considering himself as bound to fulfil the stipulations of a compact entered into under such circumstances, he determined to remain in the territory or upon its coasts, and to use whatever means might occur of re-establishing his authority. All his efforts for this purpose proving ineffectual at Sydney, he sailed to Van Dieman's Land, and passed a considerable part of the year at or off the settlement of Hobart Town. At this settlement he was at first treated with much politeness and friendly attention by Colonel Collins, who acknowledged his authority; but upon that officer's receiving communications from the lieutenant-governor at Sydney, a total change took place in his conduct towards him. Governor Bligh thenceforward remained on board his ship.

*Sydney Gazette; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
January 8th, 1809.*

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week, Lieutenant-Colonel Johnston.

January 22nd.

Between three and four in the afternoon of Sunday last, a genteel pleasure party, at South Head, consisting of fourteen officers and ladies, experienced one of the most general as well as violent electric shocks that perhaps ever was experienced. The company were preparing to take a cold collation beneath a fig tree, and from the threatening aspect of the weather, intended to make no further delay; several reports of very distant thunder had been heard, but no lightning yet discernible; when on a sudden a tremendous crash near to where they sat took place, occasioned by an immense ball of fire striking a rock not very distant from the tree, and rending it completely, then glancing towards the sea, threw up a prodigious body of water by its immersion. The consequences of this surprising phenomenon were nearly fatal to the whole of the above company; a part of the electric fluid being probably attracted by the knives and forks on the table, took its course that way, and at the same instant ten of the company were struck down, some to all appearance dead, and others strangely affected by delirium. Captain Porteus sensibly felt the shock, but, happily, was not otherwise affected; Mr. Harris was knocked down, and supposed to have been killed, but soon recovered; on the right temple the hair was singed, and his right side and thigh were bruised se-

verely; Mr. Sloane was also knocked down, and remained some days in a dangerous and doubtful state; his breast and arm were singed, and much bruised; Lieutenant Laycock received the shock on the right side, and was much lamed; Mr. G. Blaxland had a bottle knocked out of his hand, but escaped unhurt. The principal sufferer, however, was a young lady, whose head was in a total blaze, and who must have perished in a state of insensibility had not assistance been at hand. The fire was extinguished by Mr. Blaxland; but no hope of her surviving could be entertained.—She has nevertheless since recovered her faculties; and out of the whole number that felt this tremendous shock, it is a truly gratifying reflection, that no single individual is likely to bear any lasting mark of its excessive violence.

February 5th.

A bird was on Sunday se'nnight found entangled in a spider's web, which had been extended from tree to tree in Mr. Palmer's garden at Woollamoola. It was of the species called the superb warbler, was lifeless when seen, and the ingenious contriver of the trap preying on its head; but whether it had been actually killed by the spider, or died from any other cause could not be ascertained, though from the size of the insect there could be little room to doubt the possibility of its inflicting death upon the captive, when exhausted by its struggles.

February 19th.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week, John Harris, Esq.

February 26th.

On Friday next the New South Wales Corps will be reviewed by his honor the lieutenant-governor, on the cricket-ground, which is undergoing preparations for that purpose.

The rains through the week have much refreshed the gardens, which before bore a very languishing appearance; and will, it is to be hoped, a good deal recover the crops of maize, to which a much longer continuance of drowth must have been entirely ruinous.

March 19th.

GENERAL ORDERS.

The exigency of the public affairs at this moment rendering it particularly desirable, that Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux should not avail himself of the permission he had obtained from his honor the lieutenant-governor, to return to England, he has been induced to defer his departure from the colony, until his presence can be more conveniently dispensed with.

His honor the lieutenant-governor has been pleased to appoint James Finucane, Esq. to be his secretary in the room of Alexander Riley, Esq. who has requested permission to resign that office. All reports, communications, and other correspondences relative to public business, are in future to be transmitted to Mr. Finucane, at his quarters in the barracks.

Alexander Riley, Esq. is appointed a magistrate for the county of Cum-

berland, and is to be obeyed as such.

By command of his honor the lieutenant-governor
JAMES FINUCANE, Sec.
Head Quarters, Sydney,
March 19th, 1809.

July 9th.

Orphan House, July 5th, 1809.

The committee of this institution have directed notice to be given, that they will receive proposals for supplying the school with bread, meat, and fuel, for the ensuing six months, viz.

Meat, about one cwt. weekly
Bread, about 140 loaves, with 20lbs. of flour, weekly

Potatoes, 1 cwt. weekly
Wood, 1½ load, weekly.

Tenders are to be left with the treasurer, who is to be applied to for information on the conditions the parties will be required to observe.

By order of the committee,
ALEXANDER RILEY, Treasurer.

Sitting magistrate, C. Throsby, Esq.

Assize of bread, 11d.

SHIP NEWS.

This day the brig *Experiment* is expected to sail for Bengal, with between 70 and 80 tons of sandal wood shipped here. The return of this vessel with a supply of necessaries for the colony may be expected in about seven months.

We have the pleasure to announce to our readers that it is ascertained that the *banana* can be reared in the colony, there being now two trees, each bearing a branch whereon are from two to three dozen nearly ripe, in the garden of a gentleman a few miles from Sydney.

August 6th.

FLOOD AT HAWKESBURY.

Accounts were on Tuesday last received in town of the Hawkesbury settlement being again flooded; and in the course of the following day those accounts were unhappily confirmed. A Mr. Bull, of Sydney, who was at the house of Mr. John Benn, down the river, at the commencement of the flood, informs us, that little or no rain fell in that quarter until Saturday evening the 29th ultimo, when a heavy rain set in which continued without intermission until Monday morning. That a rise in the water was perceived between ten and eleven on Sunday night, and continued for some hours to increase gradually, but afterwards with an astonishing rapidity, until the whole of the surrounding farms were laid under water. About noon on Tuesday it was at the highest, and in the course of the afternoon abated five or six feet; but in consequence of the deluges of rain that fell in the evening and night of Tuesday, the water rose again several feet. On Wednesday it began again to fall, and by the noon of Thursday had decreased ten feet from its greatest height.—Among the principal sufferers that we have heard of down the river, is Mr. Benn; he having lost upwards of 300 head of swine, 100 sheep, about 1000 bushels of wheat, threshed or in stack, and a stack of barley, besides valuable property contained in his dwelling-house and barn, among which were two chests of tea and a ton of sugar but a few days prior received from Sydney.

From the Green Hills, the following report contained in a private letter, dated on Tuesday night, eleven o'clock, was received in town on Thursday:—

“With regret I inform you of the dreadful scene that at the present moment chills me with excessive horror.—The whole of this extensive settlement is one uninterrupted sheet of water. The

“lower range of houses upon the Green Hills is immersed; and the river has formed a junction with the South Creek, across the Hills, through Rickerby's grounds upon the river side, and those of the Rev. Mr. Marsden on the creek. Yesterday and last night was a most dreadful season! The danger increased with a rapidity never before witnessed; and the cries of the numerous families who were more imminently exposed were rendered still more agonizing by the impracticability of affording them immediate relief. In one alarming instance, a young man a settler, his wife and three children, were seated on a ladder laid across the fork of a tree, in which situation they contrived to sustain an equilibrium for nearly three hours, the man a great part of the time clinging by his hands at the end of the ladder; but at last yielding to fatigue, he forsook his hold, and all were in consequence precipitated into the deluge. The woman and children were picked up; but the fate of the unfortunate man is doubtful. A settler at Cornwallis passed the Hills this morning on the top of a small wheat-stack, his fate is unknown; but it is much hoped he may have been preserved by some of the boats employed in this humane work. In another, and truly melancholy instance, eight persons are supposed to have perished in one spot.—The names of those supposed unfortunates have been mentioned; but from this I must refrain, hoping the account may be erroneous, or at the least exaggerated:—At present all is uncertainty and dread, all terror and astonishment. Some lives are lost; many have been saved by the exertions of the more enterprising, directed by our magistrates, who by their example encouraged the toil of rescuing whole families from the very verge of fate. And I cannot omit to mention the active and indefatigable

“ gable exertions of Messrs. Thompson and Biggers, to whom, under the direction of Divine Providence, many are indebted for their lives. Their fatigues were equal to their dangers, which were increased by the extreme darkness of the nights; during which their boats were repeatedly stove, and it was with difficulty they could with their crews preserve their lives. Many others who volunteered their exertions are also entitled to every praise. At the order of Mr. Bell, the church was appropriated to the reception of the sufferers brought to the Hills, and such as were destitute were victualled from the store, and every measure that humanity could devise was adopted to alleviate as much as possible the misery of their condition.

“ It is considered that the perpendicular rise of the river could not be much less than eighty-six feet from the general level, and that it exceeded that of March 1806, by six or eight feet of perpendicular height; and unfortunately happens at a time of year which totally destroys the prospects of the settler, and the dependence of the colony upon this settlement for the next year, as the sown wheat will in all probability perish in the ground in most of the lower situations.”

At the farm of Mr. S. Terry, nine persons, viz. Cooley, of Toongabbee, Munsey, of Hawkesbury, Hodges, servant to a gentleman of Sydney, Mahomed an Asiatic, his wife and two children, and two black men—had endeavoured to secure themselves on the top of the barn, which fell in about five o'clock on Monday evening; but as there was no other resource left, they continued upon the roof for about two hours after, when the wife of Mahomed fell through the thatch with one of her children in her arms, and was no more seen.—Cooley endeavouring to save the other child, which clung to Mahomed, the father, slipped off

with the infant, and in like manner disappeared, as did Munsey also. Mahomed and the two black men saved themselves in trees, and Hodges swimming about in the dark at length got into the stream, by which he was carried between five and six miles before any impediment opposed his rapid course, when happily he found safety among the branches of a tree; from whence he was at length taken by a boat, and conveyed to a place of safety.

The accounts from Richmond Hill are of the same distressing tendency; but from Portland Head no communication has yet been received.

The loss of stock has been very severe, as well as grain; no possible estimate can be formed at present.

As soon as the melancholy intelligence was received, his honor Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux left town, accompanied by James Finucane, Esq. secretary to his honor the lieutenant-governor, with intention to proceed to Hawkesbury direct, but was obliged to return, as the roads were impassable.

The banks of George's River were unfortunately inundated at the same time, and a great quantity of stock and other property lost. In Major Johnston's stock-yard 490 sheep were drowned; Mr. M'Cullam lost 300, and several houses were left in ruins.

We have much satisfaction in reporting, however, that fewer persons have lost their lives than at first was apprehended; an account was received last night stating, that many who were unaccountably missing have since been heard of, and are in safety.

Yesterday a bench of magistrates assembled, by whom it was resolved that the most rigorous means should be taken to prevent the monopoly of grain; and that the price of bread should remain as before.

SHIP NEWS.

On Sunday last arrived the Mer-

cury, Mr. Siddons, master, from the Fejees, with a cargo of fine sandalwood, about 35 tons.—She made the passage from the Islands in eight weeks, and touched at Norfolk Island on her return.

The Wellesley had left a few days before the Mercury, with 300 tons of wood; and the Perseverance, Trial, and Favorite, were getting in cargoes when she came away.

August 20th.

Intelligence is received by the Lady Barlow, of the capture in the Indian seas of the snow Harrington, which was taken piratically from this port the 16th of May, 1808. The account states that she was fallen in with by the Phoenix frigate on her way towards Manilla, and Stuart and others taken out, many remaining in custody on board the Harrington; but that unfortunately the vessel going on shore on the coast of Luconia, the prisoners once more effected an escape.

August 27th.

The Rev. Mr. Cowper, assistant-chaplain to the colony, is appointed a member of the committee of the Orphan School.

By command of his honor
the lieutenant-governor,
JAMES FINUCANE, Sec.
Head Quarters, Sydney,
August 22nd, 1809.

EXTRACT

FROM

A CALCUTTA NEWSPAPER.

A young man of the name of Stuart, a convict from New South Wales, has been brought on shore from the Phæton frigate, and lodged in jail, by an order from government. It appears that this young man had been convicted of an offence

in England, for which he was transported to New South Wales, from whence, in concert with several other convicts, he carried off in May last the brig Harrington, and made the best of his way for Manilla. On the passage thither, when off the coast of Luconia, the Dédaigneuse frigate fell in with the brig Harrington and sent a party of seamen on board to take possession, and transhipping the party above named to the frigate, brought him to Prince of Wales Island, where he was transferred to the Phæton, in which frigate he has been brought on to this port.

September 10th.

On Monday his honor the lieutenant-governor arrived in town, and on the day following inspected His Majesty's 102nd regiment, or New South Wales Corps, on the review ground, Major Abbott commanding in the field; on which occasion his honor was again pleased to bestow the most animating encomiums on the discipline and fine appearance of the regiment.

On Tuesday his honor the lieutenant-governor gave a splendid entertainment to a large company of officers civil and military, at which his honor Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux was present; and on Wednesday his honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson returned to Paramatta by water.

October 1st.

Judge-Advocate's Office,
September 23rd, 1809.

The court of civil jurisdiction will assemble, for the final dispatch of all business now pending before the said court, on Monday the 9th day of October now ensuing; of which all persons at Hawkesbury,

Paramatta and Sydney, are to take notice.

R. ATKINS, judge-advocate.

On Tuesday last a number of natives assembled about the farm of Mr. Bond, at George's River, and behaved in a very outrageous manner. They manifested an inclination to plunder, but were prevented by the determination that was shewn to resist them. They threw spears, one of which grazed the ear of Mr. F. Meredith, who assisted in the defence of the place, which it was at length found necessary to abandon. Tedbury is said to have been one of the assailants.

October 8th.

A CARD.

Mr. Jenkins returns his thanks to those gentlemen who favoured him with a call on Friday night, and regrets that he was not at home to entertain them in a proper manner; should they oblige him with a repetition of the visit on any future evening, they may depend on meeting a warm reception.—Mr. J. is not certain that the writer of an anonymous letter lately received by him was of the party; should it be so, he begs to assure them that their attempts to defame his character, to rob his house, or to injure his peace of mind, will be equally ineffectual.

On Tuesday last Mr. Landrin, of Paramatta, was stung on one of the fingers of the right hand by a centipede. In about an hour the wound festered and inflamed; the finger began to swell. In the course of the following day several other festers made their appearance, the hand and arm swelled prodigiously, the inflammation hourly increased, the whole hand is now covered with an open wound, and the patient is in a most agonizing condition.—We have before unfortunately had occasion to take notice of accidents proceeding

from a similar cause; and we have as often prescribed a remedy, easy of attainment and efficacious in its operation. This is a remedy universally applied in the West Indies to the sting or bite of this noxious reptile; consisting of an embrocation made by putting centipedes and scorpions among spirits in a phial, a few drops of which rubbed well upon the affected part soon after the infliction of the wound, removes all pain and danger.

October 15th.

On Sunday last Mr. Davis, on his return from Paramatta was near the Half-way House surprised by the intreaties of a woman in distress to come to her assistance.—He accordingly stopped his horse, at the time observing two armed natives at hand, one of whom immediately advanced upon him, and directed him to alight; but shewing a determination to resist the command, they rushed upon him, and he in order to intimidate them discharged a pistol, whereupon three others who had not before shewn themselves joined the assailants, and in plain English abused and threatened him, one of them seizing him by the right foot, and getting a fast hold of his stirrup, which fortunately snapped short, whereupon he galloped off, several spears being thrown at him which fortunately missed. By Mr. Davis's prompt information and personal assistance the poor woman was shortly after rescued from their hands, but not before she had been robbed of a bundle containing tea, sugar, and other articles of comfort or necessity, with which they made off. Mr. Davis afterwards being joined by two other horse travellers, saw the same banditti several times, but could not approach near enough to distinguish who they actually were.

On Tuesday last three foot pat-

sengers were pursued a considerable distance on the Paramatta road by a gang of natives, who frequently called to them, and by alternate threats and promises endeavoured to prevail on them to stop; but their eloquence failed of its proposed end, and the travellers got safe away.

The same day a numerous banditti fell upon a flock of sheep the property of Mr. Edward Powell, between his house on the Paramatta road and Canterbury, and drove off forty-three head, nine of which afterwards got away from them, and rejoined the flock.—They were soon after pursued, and traced as far as Cook's River, which is about two miles and a half from the place where the sheep were driven off, but a heavy rain setting in, the pursuers lost their track. On Wednesday forenoon Mr. Powell attended by four other persons, discovered a fire at which two of his sheep were roasting; several natives attending, who immediately ran towards their encampment, as it afterwards proved, to give the alarm. This was about half a mile distant, whereat twenty-three carcasses more were found, with the wool singed off, but all in a putrid state. Eleven others the robbers got clear away, so that the loss sustained by Mr. Powell amounts to thirty-four fine sheep.

The mode in which the cookery of the sheep was performed was as follows:—A large hole was dug in the ground, in which a fire was kindled, and when the wood was reduced to charcoal, the carcasses were quartered and laid upon it, then covered over with the bark of the tea tree, and the whole thatched over to confine the smoke as much as possible, in order to avoid discovery: all reports agree, that Tedbury, the son of Pemulvoy, is the chief director of the mischiefs.

The above atrocities are for the most part confined to the hordes about George's River. They have several muskets, and what is no less

to be dreaded, several desperate offenders who from a preference to idleness have deserted to the woods, are suspected to have joined them.

December 24th.

NOTICE.

It having been represented that in consequence of numerous sums being in arrear to the publisher of the Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser, the publication thereof is threatened with interruption unless those arrears be immediately paid off, his honor the lieutenant-governor is pleased to direct that the stores at the various settlements be always open for the receipt of grain to the amount of sums due upon that account. And as it is his honor's wish to strengthen as much as possible the prospect of its uninterrupted continuance, he is further pleased to recommend punctuality in the discharge of subscriptions, &c. without which the publisher must always be exposed to inconveniences, against which he has been under the necessity of complaining that his circumstances are unable to contend.

By command of his honor
the lieutenant-governor,
JAMES FINUCANE, Secretary.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

A valuable farm of thirty acres at Prospect, formerly Griffiths's, the whole clear, having between two and three acres of orchard, containing apple, shaddock, lemon, quince, peach, and other trees; a good farm-house, barn, out-house, and capital steel-mill.

December 31st.

SHIP NEWS.

On Thursday arrived from Eng-

land, after a passage of about eight months, His Majesty's ships, *Dromedary* of 40, Captain Pascoe, and *Hindostan* of 50 guns, Captain Pritchitt, having on board the first battalion of the 73rd regiment of foot.

In the *Hindostan* have arrived his Excellency Governor M'Quarie and lady; and Ellis Bent, Esq. judge-advocate, and lady; and in the *Dromedary*, lieutenant-governor O'Connell, lieutenant-colonel of the regiment.

As soon as the vessels were within the Heads, Colonel Foveaux waited on his Excellency on board, to com-

pliment him on his safe arrival; his honor Lieutenant-Governor Paterson arrived from Paramatta the same evening to receive and welcome his Excellency on shore; and His Majesty's 102d regiment formed in front of the Government Wharf to pay the honours due to his Excellency's rank. Most of the inhabitants of Sydney were collected on the occasion, but were disappointed owing to the wind not permitting the vessels' coming up into the cove until late yesterday evening, on which account his Excellency was pleased to defer his landing, which was appointed to take place at ten o'clock this day.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Arrival of Governor Macquarie.

COLONEL Macquarie having arrived at the close of the year, issued the following proclamations on the 1st and 4th of the ensuing January.

“ Proclamation,

“ By his Excellency Lachlan Macquarie, Esq. captain-general and governor-in-chief of His Majesty’s territory of New South Wales and its dependencies, &c.

“ His Majesty, having felt the utmost regret and displeasure on account of the late tumultuous proceedings in this his colony, and the mutinous conduct of certain persons therein towards his late representative William Bligh, Esq. then his captain-general and commander-in-chief in the said colony ;—in order to mark such his disapprobation of the said proceedings, has been graciously pleased to appoint me his representative in the said territory of New South Wales and its dependencies ; com-

manding and requiring me, previous to the opening of his royal commission for that purpose, to reinstate the said William Bligh, Esq. in the office and situation of captain-general and governor-in-chief of this his colony, in case he should be resident in the same at the time of my arrival. His Majesty, through his gracious anxiety for the welfare and happiness of his loyal subjects of New South Wales, for the complete restoration of quiet and harmony, and to remove every motive for future disturbance, has also been graciously pleased to direct me to signify to the said William Bligh, Esq. His Majesty's pleasure, that he, the said William Bligh, Esq. should, at the expiration of twenty-four hours after being so reinstated, receive me as his successor in the office of captain-general and governor-in-chief of the territory of New South Wales and its dependencies, and administer to me the oaths usually administered on such occasion.

“ His Excellency the governor laments extremely, that the absence of the late representative of His Majesty in this colony, and the necessity of his immediately taking upon himself the command of the same, in obedience to His Majesty's commands, has rendered it impossible for him to carry His Majesty's orders

into literal execution, as his Excellency was most anxiously desirous to do. But in order to fulfil His Majesty's intentions as completely as present circumstances will permit, his Excellency the governor has thought proper, by this his proclamation, publicly to make known, that nothing but the reasons above mentioned have prevented him from reinstating William Bligh, Esq. in the office of captain-general and governor-in-chief of this territory and its dependencies, and from acting in all respects conformably to His Majesty's commands. And he feels it a painful duty to be thus compelled publicly to announce His Majesty's high displeasure and disapprobation of the mutinous and outrageous conduct displayed in the forcible and unwarrantable removal of his late representative, William Bligh, Esq. and of the tumultuous proceedings connected therewith.

“ His Excellency the governor avails himself of this opportunity of expressing his earnest hope, that harmony and union will now be restored to the colony; that all party spirit which has unfortunately resulted from the late unhappy disturbances will end; and that the higher classes will set an example of subordination, morality, and decorum; and that those in an inferior station will endeavour to distin-

guish themselves only by their loyalty, their sobriety, and their industry: by which means alone the welfare and happiness of the community can be effectually promoted.

“ Given under my hand at Government House,
Sydney, this first day of January, 1810,

“ LACHLAN MACQUARIE.

“ God save the King !

“ By command of his Excellency,

“ JOHN THOMAS CAMPBELL, Secretary.”

“ Proclamation,

“ By his Excellency Lachlan Macquarie,
Esq. captain-general and governor-in-
chief of His Majesty’s territory of New
South Wales and its dependencies, &c.

“ Whereas it has pleased His Majesty to express his high displeasure at the arrest and removal of William Bligh, Esq. his late representative in this territory and its dependencies, from the exercise of the powers and authorities granted him in that behalf; and also to consider all appointments to situations and offices of public trust made by such persons as have assumed to themselves the executive authority since such arrest and removal, as illegal and invalid; and to express his gracious will and

pleasure, that all persons who have since that time been appointed to such offices of public trust, by virtue of such illegal authority, should be forthwith displaced ; and that those persons who held such offices at the time of the said arrest and removal should be restored to the exercise of the duties of the same :

“ And whereas it has further pleased His Majesty to consider all grants of land and of stock, and all leases of houses, made subsequent to the time of such arrest and removal, especially such as have been made to the officers of the 102d regiment, as invalid ; and to command that the same should immediately be declared null and void, subject, however, to such exceptions and restrictions as will be hereinafter mentioned :

“ And whereas it hath further pleased His Majesty to consider all trials and investigations had since such arrest and removal, as invalid in law ; and to command his Excellency the governor to declare, in the most public manner, all such appointments, grants, leases, trials, and investigations, to be null and void :—

“ His Excellency, in obedience to such His Majesty’s commands, hereby publicly and solemnly makes known and signifies, and commands all persons to take notice, that those persons who

have been appointed to any situations and offices of public trust whatever, since the arrest and removal of William Bligh, Esq. late representative of His Majesty in the territory of New South Wales and the dependencies thereof, will prepare to deliver up the charge of them, and all papers, records, and documents belonging to them; and all moneys, stores, provisions, bills, and effects, the property of the public, in their hands, by twelve of the clock at noon of Monday the eighth day of this present January, to those persons who respectively exercised the duties of the same at the time of the arrest and removal of William Bligh, Esq. His Majesty's late representative in the territory of New South Wales and its dependencies, who will thenceforth be reinstated in the full enjoyment of the said offices. And it is hereby further publicly declared, that all those who have filled any offices of public trust since the said arrest and removal, and by virtue of the same have had the receipt of any moneys, bills, effects, stores, or provisions of or belonging to the public, or have been in the possession of any public property whatsoever, will be called upon by his Excellency the governor to render and give in to the office of the secretary of his Excellency, a full, true,

just, and accurate account of all such receipts, and of the disposal and disbursements of the same, by the first day of February next following the date of this proclamation, by twelve o'clock at noon of the same day.

“ His Excellency the governor, in obedience to His Majesty's commands, further publicly gives notice, that all grants of lands or of stock, and all grants of leases which have been given, granted, or made since the above-mentioned arrest and removal, are hereby declared to be, and are, null, void, and of no effect; and his Excellency gives notice that the same are revoked; and that all persons who are in possession of any lands, tenements, stock, or leases, under such gifts or grants as aforesaid, will be called upon, at their peril, to give up and surrender all such lands, tenements, stock, leases, &c. to such person or persons as may be authorised by his Excellency to receive them, by the first day of February next following the day of the date hereof.—His Excellency, however, has much pleasure in signifying His Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that all such grants of lands, tenements, stock, and leases as are in other respects legal, and are found to be made from motives of impartiality and justice, and are conformable to the powers granted by His Majesty's patent to the governors of this terri-

tory, may and will, upon proper application being made for that purpose, be renewed in the name of his Excellency the governor, provided his Excellency shall see no objection thereto.—At the same time it is his Excellency's duty to signify, and he hereby publicly gives notice, that it is His Majesty's especial command, that his Excellency should not renew or confirm, on any account whatsoever, any gifts or grants of lands, stock or leases whatsoever, made, given, or granted to any officer or officers of the 102nd (or New South Wales) regiment, subsequent to the day of arrest and removal of the late governor.

“ In further obedience to His Majesty's commands, his Excellency also declares all trials and investigations had since the arrest and removal of William Bligh, Esq. to have been had before an incompetent jurisdiction, and to be illegal: and he hereby publicly declares them to be, and the same are, of none effect whatsoever in law or equity.

“ Given under my hand, at Government House, Sydney, this 4th day of January, 1810,

“ LACHLAN MACQUARIE.

“ God save the King!

“ By command of his Excellency,

“ JOHN THOMAS CAMPBELL, Secretary.”

Mr. Bligh arrived at Sydney towards the middle of the month. He received the following letter.

“ Downing Street, 15th May, 1809.

“ SIR,

“ I received and laid before the King your letters of the dates in the margin mentioned, containing an account of the manner in which you had been placed and kept in arrest by Major Johnston, and continued in that arrest by Lieutenant-Colonel Foveaux.

“ From your letter of the 30th of April, there was every reason to suspect that your departure from the colony would have been shortly subsequent to the date of it; which prevented my writing to you when it arrived.

“ The mutinous outrage committed upon you, His Majesty’s representative, has caused the strongest sensation; and His Majesty has ordered that Major Johnston should be sent home in strict arrest, and that the New South Wales Corps should be relieved by the 73rd regiment.

“ His Majesty is unwilling to believe that your conduct has been such as justly to have created discontent in the settlement; much less that it was of such a nature as could in any

degree warrant such a measure as has been taken by Major Johnston.

“ It however appears from all the circumstances which have been transmitted, that your remaining in the government of the settlement could not be attended with satisfaction to yourself, or advantage to the public service ; His Majesty therefore has been pleased to appoint Colonel Macquarie of the 73rd regiment to take upon him the command of the colony and its dependencies. Colonel Macquarie has orders upon his arrival to liberate you from your arrest ; and, in vindication of your lawful authority, to replace you in your situation as His Majesty’s governor. As soon as this measure shall have taken place, it is then His Majesty’s pleasure that you do receive Colonel Macquarie as your successor, and proceed to have him sworn in, in your presence : you will then make the necessary arrangements for your return home.

“ It is intended that Major Johnston shall, upon his return, be brought to trial for his conduct ; and it will be for you to consider what evidence it may be necessary to send home for substantiating the charge of his mutinous proceedings ; and it will be further for you to consider against what persons you may

intend to bring accusations, and what evidence may be necessary to substantiate them.

“ In order that you may be made acquainted with the charges against you, upon which Major Johnston attempts to justify the measures adopted by him for depriving you of your authority, I think it right to put you in possession of his letter to me, of which the inclosed is a copy, and in which reference is had to various documents which I do not transmit, because the originals must exist in the settlement, and Colonel Macquarie will be directed to give the necessary orders for their being delivered to him, to be disposed of in such manner as shall appear to be necessary for elucidating or supporting the subjects to which they relate.

“ I have the honour to be, sir,

“ Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed)

“ CASTLEREAGH.”

“ To Governor Bligh, &c. &c. &c.”

*Sydney Gazette; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
January 21st, 1810.*

On Wednesday last his Excellency Governor Bligh, commodore on this station, arrived in His Majesty's ship *Porpoise*, and on entering the cove was saluted by His Majesty's ships and from the battery at Dawes's Point.

His Excellency the governor and commander-in-chief by his aide-de-camp immediately sent his compliments to Governor Bligh, and requested to be informed when it would be his pleasure to land; which being appointed for the day following at eleven in the forenoon, the two flank companies of the 73rd regiment marched in from the encampment to pay the honours due to his Excellency Governor Bligh's rank.

At eleven his Excellency Governor Bligh left the ship, accompanied by Mrs. Putland, and was saluted by the *Porpoise*, which was returned by the battery on his landing at the Government Stairs, His Majesty's and other ships paying their respects to his Excellency as he passed. His honor Lieutenant-Governor O'Connell welcomed Governor Bligh on shore, and with a large company of officers attended him to Government House, where his Excellency and Mrs. Putland were received by the governor-in-chief and lady with every possible mark of attention and respect.

His Excellency the governor-in-chief with Colonel O'Connell, and several other officers, shortly after accompanied Governor Bligh out to the camp, where he was saluted by the 73rd regiment, and received every attention possible; and about three o'clock the party returned to town to dinner.

On Friday his Excellency the governor-in-chief made a visit to Commodore Bligh on board the *Porpoise*, and was saluted with nineteen guns, and the ship manned to receive him. His Excellency remained on board about half an hour; and on his return was saluted by His Majesty's ships and other vessels as he passed by.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
January 17th, 1810.

Commodore Bligh, as late governor of this territory, is to be received by all guards and sentinels with the same respect and compliments as were formerly paid to him when in the chief command, namely, presented arms from all guards and sentinels, and drums to beat a march.

By command of his Excellency,
T. S. CLEAVELAND,
Acting Major of Brigade.

ADDRESS

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY.

At a meeting on Tuesday last of the principal inhabitants of the colony, convened by public advertisement, it was unanimously resolved, that the following address should be signed and presented to his Excellency the governor-in-chief, who having signified by the provost marshal that he would be pleased to receive the same on the following morning, five of the gentlemen attended at the Government House, at twelve o'clock. His Excellency received them with particular attention, and was further pleased to return the answer we subjoin.

" To his Excellency Lachlan Macquarie, Esquire, captain-general and governor-in-chief in and over His Majesty's territory of New South Wales and its dependencies, &c. &c. &c.

" The undersigned inhabitants of this colony beg leave to approach your Excellency to offer their sincere congratulations upon your safe arrival, and to express the happiness they feel at His Majesty's most gracious appointment of your Excellency to the government.

" They beg to return you their most grateful thanks for the very liberal and noble sentiments you have been pleased to express towards them; and to assure your Excellency, that in them you will find a people desirous of obtaining your esteem by a tranquil and uniform observance of their duty as faithful and loyal subjects of their sovereign; and they pledge a cheerful compliance to such regulations as your Excellency may deem necessary to adopt for the advancement and prosperity of this colony, in return for that protection and security which they are assured their persons and property will enjoy under your Excellency's administration.

" They cannot but sincerely lament the unhappy differences and dissensions under which this colony has unfortunately laboured; and of which they are aware the bare mention must be painful to your Excellency's feelings; but they cherish an anxious hope, that the union and harmony so forcibly recommended by your Excellency will unanimously prevail, and that all party spirit may be buried in oblivion! This accomplished, they confidently feel, that under your Excellency's protection the territory of New South Wales will be as distinguished for its prosperity and happiness, as its envied and conjoined resources of climate, soil, and situation entitle the world to expect."

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER.

" Gentlemen,

" I beg you will accept my warmest acknowledgments for the very kind and flattering address you have now presented to me, from the respectable inhabitants of this colony, congratulating me on my safe arrival and taking charge of the government of this very important and extensive territory.

" The assurances of your loyalty and attachment to our most gracious sovereign and the British constitution, must be at all times highly gratifying to me, and particularly so at the present moment of my entering on the government of this remote colony; and I feel particularly gratified by the expression of your confidence in my just and upright administration of it.

" It will ever be the uppermost wish of my heart to promote the welfare and prosperity of the country I have now the honor to govern, and to encourage by every means in my power the inhabitants of it to become religious, sober, and industrious good subjects.

" I feel confident that the inhabitants of this colony will see the propriety and necessity of burying in oblivion all party spirit, which may have resulted from the late unhappy disturbances; and I cannot too strongly impress upon the minds of the upper classes of society, how highly essential it is to the welfare, prosperity, tranquillity, and happiness of the community at large, that they should set an example of subordination, morality, and decorum; and by rigidly adhering to this line of conduct, this country must inevitably increase in consequence, opulence, respectability, and importance."

Government House, Sydney,
January 16th, 1810.

From a Mr. George Guest, a few days since arrived from the Derwent, we learn the following particulars relative to that settlement, which may appear interesting.

The ground under cultivation Mr. Guest considers to be about 1500 acres. The crop of wheat of the present year's growth he considers will scarcely average eight bushels to the acre, owing to the seed, which was mostly sent from hence, having been of very indifferent quality. Sixteen acres of Mr. Guest's own growth, he scarcely imagines will produce three bushels to the acre.

The flock of horned cattle is in very good condition, and the prices of articles are much similar to those with us; fresh beef, mutton, and pork, being 1s. 6d. per lb.; potatoes 2d. per ditto; fowls dear, being from 5s. to 6s. each; tea 8s. to 12s. per lb.; sugar 10d. per ditto; spirits 15s. to 16s. per bottle; and the store price of wheat 21s. per bushel before the Union arrived.

The different settlements of agriculture are, New Norfolk, twenty-five miles from Hobart Town, on the banks of a fine fresh-water river, navigable at high water to a vessel of the Lady Nelson's burthen; the next that we notice is Herdsman's Cove, about mid-way between Hobart and the above;—This has only been settled a few months since by settlers from Norfolk Island, who have not yet been able to plant any thing but potatoes;—the river gets brackish at high water. The next is Kangaroo Point, which is about two miles from the town, but on the opposite side of the river, well watered by a very fine run; and at about a mile more distant from Hobart is New Town, which was the first settlement made. Ralph's Bay is about eight miles from Hobart, and also on the opposite side of the river. Here from 130 to 200 acres are in cultivation by the Norfolk settlers, about two hundred of whom have at different times been removed thither with their families, amounting to 1100 persons more or less. The

land near the town is considered some of the best yet cultivated, and is mostly laid out in gardens, which produce vegetables in tolerable abundance.

February 24th.

His honor Lieutenant-Governor O'Connell returned yesterday from his tour through the different parts of this settlement, having completed thereby the general muster which commenced here on the 1st instant. We learn with much satisfaction, that the ripening corn presented to him in every direction the fairest prospect of an abundant harvest; and his honor, we are informed, has been pleased to express great admiration of the picturesque scenery which presented itself to his view in various situations, but more especially of that on the fruitful banks of the Hawkesbury, and at the same time much satisfaction at the rapid progress of British industry on these remote shores.

March 31st.

Head Quarters,
Government House, Sydney.

It being necessary, for the sake of regularity in the accounts of the corps, as well as for allowing a reasonable time for supplying the men with sea necessaries for the voyage to England, that a period should be fixed for the volunteering of men from the 102nd into the 73rd regiment to cease, the Commander of the forces directs, that it may be fully explained to the former corps, that no men will be allowed to volunteer after the 6th day of the next month of April, with the exception of the two detachments expected to arrive at Head Quarters, from Newcastle and Norfolk Island.

By command of his Excellency,
T. S. CLEAVELAND,
Acting Major of Brigade.

Thursday, March 29, 1810.

Yesterday his Excellency and family paid a visit to Paramatta, from whence they return in a few days.

Commodore Bligh is now on a journey to the interior before he leaves this colony, which will take place on the 11th of next month.

April 21st.

An elegant entertainment was this day given by John Palmer, Esq. at his seat at Woollamoola, to a large company of fashionables.—Present, his Excellency and lady; and many of the principal officers, civil, military and naval, with their ladies.

By the Cyclops from Hobart, we receive the lamentable intelligence of the death of Lieutenant-Governor Collins, who departed this life suddenly on the evening of the 24th of March last, while sitting in his chair, conversing with his surgeon, who had attended him during a short illness of six days.

The most marked respect was paid to the remains of the above officer by every description of persons in the settlement. The funeral service was performed by the Rev. Mr. Knopwood, who delivered a pathetic and truly appropriate sermon on the occasion. The funeral was attended by all the officers of the settlement, Lieutenant Lord of the Marines following the bier as chief mourner, succeeded by a numerous train of mourners; upwards of six hundred persons having assembled to pay the last duties of respect to their revered commander.

The command of the settlement of Hobart devolves on Lieutenant Lord, until his Excellency the governor-in-chief's instructions shall be received.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,
By Mr. Bevan,
An elegant four-wheeled chariot,

with plated mounted harness for four horses complete; and a handsome lady's side-saddle and bridle. May be viewed on application to Mr. Bevan.

April 28th.

On Monday last a farewell fête was given by his Excellency in honour of Commodore Bligh and his daughter, Mrs. Putland, on which occasion a numerous party of ladies and gentlemen were invited, among whom were most of the officers civil, military, and naval. Government House was neatly decorated, and brilliantly lighted; the ball-room hung round with festoons of flowers, encircling the initials of Mrs. Putland and Commodore Bligh in a very neat device. In the evening a ball was given, which was supported with uncommon vivacity until "the twinkling stars gave notice of approaching day," a handsome firework was also displayed on the occasion, between the hours of ten and eleven; and no single circumstance was omitted that could convey an idea of the respect entertained by his Excellency, for the distinguished persons in compliment to whom the entertainment had been given.

On Friday, the day appointed for the commodore's embarkation, the 73rd regiment were under arms at eleven, for the purpose of paying the usual honours to the late governor-in-chief on his departure, the lines extending from the Government Wharf round by Government Gate, and down the avenue to Government House which faces the bridge. At half-past eleven the commodore, conducting Mrs. Putland, entered the ranks at the end of the bridge, and proceeded to Government House, where the officers civil and military were assembled to take their leave. About twelve the commodore, accompanied by his Excellency the governor-in-chief, attended

by a numerous company of officers, moved towards the wharf, the military presenting arms, and the band of the 73rd preceding the procession, playing "God save the King." As soon as the commodore, Mrs. Putland, and suite entered the commodore's barge, on the bow of which the broad pendant was displayed, the battery commenced saluting; the barge passed round the shipping, from each of which he was saluted with yards manned; and on reaching the Porpoise the Hindostan first began saluting, which immediately became general.

May 5th.

On Tuesday at eleven in the forenoon embarked on board His Majesty's ship *Dromedary*, Colonel William Paterson, of the 102nd regiment, formerly lieutenant-governor of this colony, and his lady. On this occasion the avenue leading from his honor's late residence to the Government Stairs was lined by the grenadier company of the 73rd regiment, presenting arms, the regimental band playing the ever favourite air "God save the King." His honor and lady were accompanied by Lieutenant-Governor O'Connell, and a numerous company of officers civil and military, who took their leave at the end of the wharf, where a handsome pinnace awaited their approach. On taking water, a salute of thirteen guns was fired from the battery, and reiterated cheers were given by the spectators on and about the wharf, which were re-echoed from each vessel as the pinnace passed. When a-breast of the public landing wharf, the like salutes were given by a numerous body of inhabitants who were there assembled; and ten crowded boats followed the colonel's pinnace in succession, cheering all the way, as a public demonstration of respect towards an officer who had for many

years been the second in command in the colony, and whose urbanity of manners, joined to a true benevolence of disposition, had endeared him to all classes of the inhabitants.

On Thursday a splendid dinner was given by his honor Lieutenant-Governor O'Connell to a select party, among whom were his Excellency the governor and lady, Commodore Bligh and Mrs. Putland, who had relanded, and several officers civil and military, and their ladies.

Commodore Bligh goes home in the *Hindostan*, to which ship his flag has been transferred from the *Porpoise*.

Four, out of the five deserters from the *Indispensible*, Captain Best, have been apprehended, and are held in custody until the return of the ship.

The following express, from a correspondent at Paramatta, dated Monday, April 30th, we acknowledge the receipt of by its insertion.

The annals of this country have never been able to record such a series of pleasant and *outré* pastimes—such feats of humour and fun, so congenial to the temper and to the spirit of Englishmen, as this day has produced in and near the town of Paramatta.

Horseracing was the leading feature of the day; and this sport commenced with a race between the celebrated horse Paramatta and the well-known bay horse Belfast, which was won by the former. A trotting match succeeded; when the famous mare Miss Kitty was victorious, going over the ground in a style scarcely to be surpassed by some of the first trotters in England. On these matches bets to a considerable amount were depending.

When those animals had retired from the field, the old (but not very humane or merciful) custom of cock-fighting was introduced; and a main

of cocks was fought—the chances of which were for a long time precarious, until at length *death* decided the victory, and the survivor was borne off triumphant.

Then succeeded the motley mirth of foot-racing, wheelbarrow races, or rather stumblings, for the heroes who had the charge of these wooden concerns were blindfolded, to give them the fairer chance of effecting that by accident which they had no *visible* means of doing. Jumping in sacks came next in order; and a venerable host gave the calculated complement of calico for a *chemise* to be run for by three vestals of the *current* order; this was a very warm contest, and was obstinately kept up as long as the fair competitors could themselves keep up; but this not being practicable, nor altogether answerable to the wishes of the spectators, the prize was given to the lucky fair one, who received it “nothing loath.”

—
May 12th.

Government House, Sydney.

A court of criminal jurisdiction will be held at Sydney, on Monday, the 28th day of this present month, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, for the trial of such persons as shall be brought before it.

By command of his Excellency,
J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

Government House, Sydney.

Saturday, May 12, 1810.

His Excellency the governor, in order to promote the interest of the settlers and the welfare of the colony at large, and with a view to secure a sufficient quantity of grain for the ensuing year, has granted his permission for a proportion of the privates of the 73rd regiment, to employ themselves among the cultivators throughout the settlements during the seed time, for the express purpose of reaping their lands only; and who are to be paid by the

settlers in grain or money after the colonial rates.

On Tuesday in the forenoon was married by the Rev. Mr. Marsden, at Government House, Sydney, his honor Lieutenant-Governor Maurice Charles O'Connell, to Mrs. Putland, daughter of Commodore Bligh, late governor of this territory and its dependencies.

Samuel Pugh, rope-maker, begs to inform masters and owners of vessels, that he has recently established a rope-walk at the Back Row West, where all orders for rope or cordage of any kind will be attended to with the utmost dispatch, on the most reasonable terms.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT,

A capital farm at Richmond Hill, consisting of seventy-five acres of the best land in that excellent neighbourhood, seventeen or eighteen acres in cultivation and having a beautiful orchard, with a very commodious brick-built family residence, the property of John Ryan, of whom particulars may be known.

73rd Regiment.

Wanted, for the use of the above regiment, from one to two thousand pounds in specie, for which a set of bills will be immediately given on the agents in London.

JOHN BIRCH, Paymaster.

SHIP NEWS.

On Monday morning last a salute of nineteen guns was fired from the battery at Dawes's Point, on His Majesty's ship *Hindustan*, bearing Commodore Bligh's broad pendant, getting under weigh to drop down to the Heads, from whence she this day sailed for England with the *Porpoise* and *Dromedary*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The letter signed “Anonymous” is received.—The piece of poetry it encloses, would have appeared were

it not so immediately pointed in its allusion, as to require a permission for its insertion from the distinguished characters alluded to, without which we could not presume upon so great a liberty.

June 2nd.

A meeting of the subscribers to the race-course will be held at the mess-room of the officers of the 73rd regiment, on Monday next, at two o'clock.

Sydney, June 2nd, 1810.

June 16th.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Government House, Sydney.
Saturday, June 16, 1810.

His Excellency the governor has been pleased to appoint Captain John Murray, of the 73rd regiment, to be commandant of the settlement at Hobart Town, in Van Dieman's Land, till further orders; and he is accordingly to be obeyed and respected as such.

His Excellency has also been pleased to appoint Samuel Bate, Esq. to act as deputy judge-advocate at the settlement of Hobart Town, in Van Dieman's Land, until His Majesty's pleasure shall be known.

The governor has likewise been pleased to appoint Lieutenant Thomas Wright, of the 73rd regiment, to be inspector of the public works at Hobart Town, till further orders.

Lieutenant Edward Lord, of the corps of Royal Marines, has obtained permission from his Excellency the governor, to return to England by the first convenient opportunity for the recovery of his health, and to be absent from his duty at Hobart Town for twelve months from the date of his embarkation.

Captain John Murray, of the 73rd

regiment, and Leonard Fosbrook, Esq. have been appointed justices of the peace and magistrates for the settlement of Hobart Town, in the county of Buckingham, in Van Dieman's Land; and are to be obeyed and respected as such accordingly.

Lieutenant Robert Durie, of the 73rd regiment, commanding the detachment of that corps now stationed at Paramatta, has been appointed a justice of peace and magistrate in that district, and is to be obeyed and respected as such.

In consideration of the additional duties that Lieutenant Durie will have to perform as commanding officer and magistrate at Paramatta, his Excellency the governor is pleased to direct, that he shall receive an allowance of five shillings per day, from this date, to be paid him out of the police fund.

By command of his Excellency,
JOHN THOMAS CAMPBELL,
Secretary.

This day Captain Murray's company, on duty at Paramatta, was relieved by the detachment commanded by Lieutenant Durie, and embarked on board the King George for Hobart Town.

Assize of bread for the ensuing week, 11d.

Average prices of articles at this day's market:—

Mutton, pork, and beef, 1s. 6d. per lb.

Wheat, 1l. 3s. 3d. per bushel.

Maize, 5s. 6d. per bushel.

Potatoes, 11s. 6d. per cwt.

Fowls, 3s. 6d. each.

Eggs, 2s. 6d. per dozen.

June 23rd.

Yesterday a bench of magistrates assembled for the purpose of taking into consideration an application from a number of reputable house-

keepers to be allowed licences to retail beer and ales, and nearly fifty were approved.

June 30th

WANTED,

About 30,000 bushels of well-burnt lime, to be delivered at 1000 bushels per month, to commence from September 1st, 1810. Apply to Lewis Jones, No. 7, Lower Chapel Row, Sydney.

July 7th.

Assize of bread for the ensuing week, 11d.

Average prices of articles at this day's market.—

Mutton, pork, and beef, 1s. 6d. per lb.

Wheat, 1l. 5s. 9d. per bushel.

Maize, 6s. per bushel.

Potatoes, 15s. per cwt.

Fowls, 3s. each.

Eggs, 2s. 6d. per dozen.

NOTICE.

The stewards of the races request, that no gentleman will ride or drive over the course that has been marked out in the vicinity of the town, as much injury has already been done by persons galloping over it in its unfinished state; the clerk of the course (Mr. John Reddington) has authority to stop all horses or carts he may after this notice find attempting to cross the course; and it is hoped, that every well-wisher to the races will lend him every assistance.

To the Printer of the Sydney Gazette.

"Sir,

"The great Creator having made of one blood all nations of the earth, and taking for granted that the natives of New South Wales are capable of instruction and civilization, I should be extremely obliged by the favour of an answer to the

following query, either publicly through your paper, or privately to be left at the Gazette Office.

"Query.—What plan can be adopted, what means used, or what steps taken, whereby we may most speedily and effectually civilize and evangelize the natives of New South Wales, local circumstances considered?

"I am, sir,

"Your obedient servant,
"PHILANTHROPOS."

July 14th.

To the Printer of the Sydney Gazette.
Sir,

In answer to the Query of Philanthropos, I beg to communicate the following remarks, which, should they appear relevant to the design of your correspondent who has humanely suggested the idea of rescuing the natives of New South Wales from their deplorable state of barbarism, I should be proud to recognize in one of your earliest columns.

My first observation must convey the painful notion, that those people appear to possess every quality that can tend to discourage the hope of their ever becoming civilized beings after they reach an adult state. That they are too indolent to provide for their common wants, their preference to a state of nakedness in lieu of the most trivial exertion to defend themselves from the weather, which they nevertheless acutely feel, is doubtless a demonstration; as is also that of their inattention to the culture of a single herb or plant, whence they are obliged to content themselves with whatsoever chance may contribute to the immediate calls of appetite, and devour the most loathsome insects and reptiles, with the most nauseous filth, that can with the least trouble be obtained. This trait in their character is alone sufficient, in my opinion, to repel the prospect of

civilizing the grown people without the use of *force*, to bring them first to industry, without which civilization would go back to barbarism, and barbarism consequently never can approach to civilization. If, therefore, they could be made industrious, their condition would be improved; a relish for the indulgences which would thereby come within their reach would excite wants; these would beget exertion; and even the natives of New South Wales might in process of time derive advantage from the invention of a pair of fashionable snuffers or a corkscrew, or of the most gaudy ornaments and trinkets that the first European *bijouterie* could furnish to decorate the persons of their fair country-women. That they possess a genius, some instances have informed us; several that have been taken from their parents in a state of infancy, have been taught to read, write, and converse with tolerable fluency; but they possess so little *curiosity* or wish of inquiry, that I may venture to affirm, that in the course of a twenty years observation of European manners, not one has attempted to build himself a hut, or by the slightest experiment, to alleviate the misery of his condition, if such he can at all conceive it.

It has heretofore been the opinion of some, that by rearing a few of their children in the families of the European settlers, the parents might eventually be guided by their precept and example; but this expectation has hitherto been foiled; for, as they advanced in growth, they flew to opposite extremes—either conceiving an utter abhorrence of the society and language of their countrymen, or returning to their society and totally deserting that in which they had been reared; from which extraordinary contrast of course it follows, that those of the first description neither charmed by their example, nor took any pains to allure by their precepts; while less if possible could be expected from the latter, who had, by their

conduct, sufficiently demonstrated an aversion to European manners, and were soon initiated in the barbarous habits of their forefathers.

Considering then, as I am inclined to do, that the adults of our native tribes are beyond the present reach of civilization, I shall, some other time, in compliance with the wish of the humane and charitable Philanthropos, sketch an outline of what I consider likely to insure the attainment of his object.

A. B.

July 21st.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

Secretary's Office, Sydney,
21st July, 1810.

A ship being daily expected to arrive here from England with female convicts, whom it is his Excellency the governor's intention to distribute among the settlers, as indentured servants, immediately on their arrival, and some male convicts being also expected, notice is hereby given to the settlers at large, that such of them as wish to obtain the assistance of those females in their houses, and of the men for labour, are forthwith to apply to the resident magistrate in their neighbourhood, if living in the interior, and those in Sydney, or its neighbourhood, to this office, stating the number of each that they wish to obtain the assistance of.

By command of his Excellency,
J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

September 1st.

On Monday his Excellency and lady made a visit to Paramatta, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Bent, and several military officers. The party made an excursion on Tuesday beyond Prospect, and on Wednesday visited Pendant Hills; in the course of which pleasant tour his Excel.

lency was pleased to make many remarks upon the appearance of the country, and to suggest various plans of promised improvement and utility; and yesterday returned to town.

FROM THE DERWENT STAR.

Lieutenant Lord, of the Royal Marines, who after the death of Lieutenant-Governor Collins succeeded to the command of the settlement at Hobart Town, arrived at Port Jackson in the Hunter, and favours us with the perusal of the Ninth Number published of the *Derwent Star and Van Dieman's Land Intelligencer*; from which we copy the following extracts:—

“On the 6th of July, the long expected news from Sydney arrived.—The colonial ship *King George* anchored in the cove, having on board Captain John Murray, of the 73rd regiment, appointed by his Excellency Governor Macquarie, to be commandant of the settlement at Hobart Town, until further orders. The commandant was accompanied by his lady and son, also by Lieut. Wright, Lieut. Gunning, and Ensign Campbell, Assistant-surgeon Dermot, and a full company of the regiment. They were received on their landing by the civil and military officers, and detachment of the Royal Marines, in the usual form, and were escorted to Government House. The next day the troops were disembarked, the tents were pitched, but the weather would not permit the troops to remain in them, and they were placed in the upper story of the new Public Store, which is now formed into a convenient barrack, as from the severity of the season they could not continue under canvas.

“As soon after his arrival as the weather would allow, the commandant dispatched an express overland to Port Dalrymple, to announce it to Major Gordon of that settlement.

“A supply of wet and dry pro-

visions for the store were received by this ship.”

The production of a periodical print in an infant sister settlement must convey to the mind a strong idea of its rapid progress, and of the energy of our liberal government in countenancing and supporting such exertions as are laudable and beneficial in their tendency.

The *Derwent Star* is a neat publication, printed every fortnight in a quarto size. It contains the government orders, and various articles of intelligence, of the style of which the above will serve as a specimen, together with some advertisements. To the public patronage it peculiarly lays claim, as a medium of information devoted to the public use; but unfortunately its limited circulation cannot promise any very considerable advantage to those engaged in it. Should any of our readers however, incline their aid to the support of this infant production, we beg leave to lay before them the publisher's proposals, which are as follow:—Subscribers to pay 10s. per quarter, or 2l. annually;—single papers are sold at 2s. each.

September 8th.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week, Wm. Broughton, Esq.

Assize of bread for the ensuing week.—Wheaten bread, 12½d.; Indian corn bread, 5½d. per loaf, to weigh 2lbs.

Average prices of articles at this day's market.—

Mutton, 1s. 6d., pork and beef, 1s.

4d. per lb.

Wheat, 1l. 6s. 4d. per bushel.

Maize, 5s. per bushel.

Potatoes, 17s. 6d. per cwt.

Fowls, 3s. each.

Eggs, 2s. 3d. per dozen.

The races commence on Monday.

the 15th of October, and will continue until the Friday following, with the omission of Tuesday and Thursday. The course has been completed at a very considerable expense, and is esteemed a very fine one. Several handsome plates and other elegant presents, among which is a silver cup of fifty guineas value, given by the ladies of the colony, are to be contended for by the horses of subscribers to the race-course; and a purse of fifty guineas will be given by the magistrates of the colony, *free for all horses*, to be run for the last day.—From this excellent institution, so liberally patronized and supported, we may hope the important advantage of amending the breed of the most useful and most noble animal that nature has bestowed on man. And this, among the many objects that evince not only a desire for improvement, but the success of our efforts to emerge from the obscurity that preceded the introduction of social harmony into every state and empire, bids fair to hold a very distinguished rank.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The communication of Amicus, in answer to the *Query* of Philanthropos, on the most practicable mode of civilizing the natives of this country, is received; but as most of the hints closely correspond with those of another writer on the same subject, (vide Sydney Gazette lately published), the only material point in which a difference is discernable bearing upon that part of the mode already submitted to the public, which treats of the maintenance and education of the native children that may offer to our adoption. The former, as upon reference to the Gazettees quoted will appear, urges their alienation from the native habits by their admission into European families of which they might in time become useful members, and thus repay the care bestowed upon their infancy; by means whereof the expense and loss of the time that

would be necessary to the institution of an asylum at the public expense would be avoided. Amicus is however of the contrary opinion, as will appear from the following passage, which is precisely copied from the article with which he has been kind enough to favour us.

“The children of the natives ought not to be allowed a mixed intercourse with our own, but kept as a separate flock, reserved for a particular purpose; because if they be as carelessly attended to in their moral progress as our own children too commonly are, they will in all probability exchange ignorance for vice, the one to be pitied, the other detested. Now it is not my wish to offend any one, Mr. Printer, by a severe conclusion, nor do I think that what I have said upon this point will be taken as an offence, for two reasons; the one because those who do bestow proper attention upon the rearing of their children will feel great gratification in the knowledge that they do not incur the censure; and the other, because those of an opposite cast must be shielded by a want of natural feeling from any operation which a just rebuke ought, to have upon the mind. But it is my idea, that the infant natives should have an impartial trial, or else they had better have none at all; for it certainly would be better that they should continue in an uncultivated state, than be polished merely to become corrupt.

“I consider, therefore, that by keeping them in a small society formed of their own body, be it great or small, they would avoid a great evil which it would be more difficult to amend than in the first instance to provide against. To effect this would require a capital to defray the necessary charges, and this capital might be raised by voluntary contribution, so that all who chose might out of charity give what he pleased, and the little creatures, independent of individual caprice, would be relieved from the

fear of being turned out of doors at a minute's notice, which would be an act of extreme cruelty, as they would be forced to fly for support to the woods when as little able to endure such a life of misery as ourselves. With respect to the necessity of preserving the native language while these children acquired the English tongue, I think myself it would forward the desired object; but I cannot consider at the same time that this end would be better accomplished by a mixed intercourse. No, from sedate persons appointed to direct and instruct them, they would be led forward in a proper and not in an irregular manner; whereas, were the black and white children promiscuously to mingle for the purpose of instructing one another in their different languages, little more could be expected than a jargon which taking root among the rising generation, might hereafter be as foreign to the mother tongue as is the case with many provincial dialects. From their preceptors they would acquire the English language, and by associating with each other they would retain their own; and surely it may also with propriety be supposed, that if their language were likely to become an acquisition, we might with their assistance very soon become proficient."—The above being the only passage that conveys any new idea, we trust Amicus will excuse the omission of the remainder.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The publisher of this paper esteeming it a duty to aid as much as possible in the advancement of the press in these infant colonies, respectfully begs leave to solicit the extension of the public patronage to the *Derwent Star*, on the terms of subscription made known in the Gazette of last week; the punctual delivery of which he will undertake on the arrival of every vessel from Hobart Town, free of any additional charge. Those who may incline to favour this *novel* production, are therefore requested to for-

ward their address to the Sydney Gazette Office.

September 22nd.

A bachelor's ball was on Thursday evening given by those gentlemen, subscribers to the Sydney Race Course, who have not yet paid their devotion at the hymeneal altar. This convivial *fête* was honoured with the presence of his Excellency the governor and lady, his Honor the lieutenant-governor and lady, and all the principal officers and ladies of the colony. The apartments were elegantly fitted up, and beautifully decorated with wreaths of flowers, bouquets, and ornamental devices happily adapted to the occasion. The company was numerous; and such was the attention of the gentlemen who took upon themselves the duties of conducting the ceremonies, that the company retired at a late hour under the ample persuasion, that the bachelor's ball was one of the most agreeable private entertainments ever given in this colony.

October 6th.

Government House, Sydney,
Saturday, October 6, 1810.

It being highly necessary that peace and good order should be preserved at the ensuing races, and that no gaming, drunkenness, swearing, or fighting, should be permitted, his Excellency the governor gives this public notice, that no booths, stalls, or shops, will be allowed to be erected on or near any part of the race ground during the race week, and that any persons selling, or attempting to sell any wine, liquor, or beer, on or near the race ground, during the race week, will be deprived of their licences (if they have had any), and prosecuted besides for a breach of these orders.

His Excellency therefore strictly forbids and prohibits all species

of gaming, drunkenness, swearing, quarrelling, fighting, or boxing taking place on or near the race-ground.—Any person transgressing these orders, or who is detected creating any noise or disturbance, will be immediately apprehended and confined in gaol; and the constables will have strict orders to this effect.

A CARD.

The subscribers to the Sydney Race Course are informed, that the stewards have made arrangements for two balls during the race week, viz. on Tuesday and Thursday.—Tickets at 7s. 6d. each, to be had at Mr. E. Wills's, George Street.

An ordinary for the subscribers and their friends each day of the races, at Mr. Wills's.—Dinner on table at five o'clock.

October 20th.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

SYDNEY RACES.

Monday, 15th October, 1810.

First Day.

A plate, value 50 guineas, given by the subscribers to the Sydney Race Course for horses of all ages belonging to subscribers. The best of three 2-mile heats. Two yrs old to carry 6st. 2lb. 3 yrs old 6st. 12lb. 4 yrs old 8st. 5 yrs old 8st. 8lb. 6 yrs old 8st. 12lb. and aged 9st.

Capt. Richie's gr. g. Chase, 6 yrs old	- - - - -	1	1
Mr. Williams's r. g. Strawberry, 5 yrs old	- - - - -	2	2
Major Cleaveland's ch. g. Ratler, 3 yrs old	- - - - -	4	3
Captain Cameron's b. g. Hyderabad, 5 yrs old	- - - - -	3	drawn
Captain Glenholme's gr. g. Bryan-boroo, 3 yrs old	- dist.		
Mr. Bent's gr. g. Billy, 5 yrs old	- - - - -		dist.

A well-contested race between Chase and Strawberry.

Major Cleaveland's Ratler fell lame.

Mr. Wentworth's b. g. Gig, 8st. 12lb. beat Mr. Broughton's bl. g. Jerry, 8st. 2lb. 3 miles, 60 gs.—Gig won easy.

Wednesday, 17th October.

Second Day.

A cup, value 50 guineas, given by the ladies of the colony, for horses of all ages belonging to subscribers to the Sydney Race Course. The best of three 2-mile heats. Three yrs old to carry 7st. 4lb. 4 yrs old 8st. 12lb. 6 yrs old 9st. 2lb. and aged 10st.

Mr. Lord's b. g. Tipsey, 2 yrs old	- - -	1	3	2
Mr. Owen's ch. m. Bessy, 2 yrs old	- - -	2	4	drawn
Mr. Williams's r. g. Strawberry, 5 yrs old	- - -	3	2	2
Captain Richie's gr. g. Chase, 6 yrs old	- - -	4	1	1
Colonel O'Connell's bl. g. Carlo, 2 yrs old	- - -	6	dr.	
Captain Piper's ch. m. Miss Kitty, aged	5 4 4			

A good race between Chase and Strawberry the last two heats.

Mr. Wentworth's b. g. rode by Mr. Bayley, beat Mr. Broughton's bl. g. Jerry, rode by Capt. Richie, 3 miles, 40 gs.

Friday, 19th October.

Third Day.

A purse, value 50 guineas, given by the magistrates of the settlement, free for all horses, (with the exception of the winner of the plate and cup), the best of three 2-mile heats. Two yrs old to carry 6st. 2lb. 3 yrs old 7st. 4lb. 4 yrs old 8st. 5 yrs old 8st. 8lb. 6 yrs old 8st. 12. and aged 9st.

Mr. Benn's bl. h. Scratch, aged	- - - - -	1	1
Mr. L. May's ch. g. Tickle Toby, 6 yrs old	- - - - -	2	2

Mr. Williams's r. g. Strawberry, 5 yrs old - - - 3 dr
 Mr. Underwood's b. m. 6 yrs old - - - - - 4 do
 Mr. Wentworth's b. g. Gig, 5 yrs old - - - - - fell
 Captain Richie's r. g. Yorick, 5 yrs old - - - - - dis.
 Mr. Wentworth's b. g. Gig, rode by Mr. Wentworth, Jun. beat Mr. Broughton's bl. g. Jerry, rode by the owner; 3 miles, 20 gs. play or pay.

The ladies' cup, which was of very superior workmanship, won by Chase, was presented to Captain Richie by Mrs. Macquarie; who, accompanied by his Excellency, honoured each day's races with her presence, and who, with her usual affability, was pleased to preface the donation with the following short address:

"In the name of the ladies of New South Wales, I have the pleasure to present you with this cup. Give me leave to congratulate you on being the successful candidate for it; and to hope that it is a prelude to future success, and lasting prosperity."

THE SUBSCRIBERS' BALL

On Tuesday and Thursday night was honoured with the presence of his Excellency the governor and lady; his Honor the lieutenant-governor and lady; the judge-advocate and lady; the magistrates, and other officers civil and military, and all the beauty and fashion of the colony. Over the door of the ball-room a transparency was placed, of the royal arms of the United Kingdom; the full band of the 73rd played off "God save the King" in exquisite style, and between the country dances filled the room with other melodious and appropriate airs. The business of the meeting could not fail of diffusing a universal glow of satisfaction—the celebration of the first liberal amusement instituted in the colony, and in the presence of its patron and founder. The ball-room was occupied till

about two o'clock; when part of the company retired, and those that chose to remain formed into a supper party. After the cloth was removed the rosy deity asserted his pre-eminence, and with the zealous aid of Momus and Apollo chased pale Cynthia down into the western world.—The blazing orb of day announced his near approach; and the God of the Chariot reluctantly forsook his company; Bacchus drooped his head, and Momus could no longer animate. The *bon vivants* no longer relishing the tired deities, broke up, and left them to themselves.

The dinners at Mr. Wills's, George Street, were attended by many of the subscribers and their friends; who did not separate till late each night of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. After dinner many loyal toasts were drunk, and in the evening, mirth and good humour floated round the board.

His Excellency the governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. Mathew John Gibbons to be clerk of the public market in the town of Sydney, with a salary of fifty pounds sterling per annum, which is to be paid him from the police fund, commencing from the 1st of the present month. Mr. Gibbons has also been appointed a constable in the town of Sydney, and is to be accordingly obeyed as such.

November 17th.

His Excellency the governor and lady, accompanied by a party of officers and gentlemen, left Paramatta at six o'clock yesterday morning, on a visit to the Cow Pasture Plains, to view the herds of wild cattle.

December 8th.

On Saturday evening last his Ex-

cellency the governor, family, and suite, arrived at the Green Hills, to which beautiful situation it has since been his Excellency's pleasure to give the name of Windsor, and was expected in Paramatta this day, after his very extensive tour throughout the various settlements.

—
December 15th

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Government House, Sydney,
Saturday, Dec. 15, 1810.

His Excellency the governor being now returned from his late extensive tour of inspection through the various districts of this colony, where agriculture and the breeding of cattle have occupied the attention of the numerous settlers, deems it expedient to express freely his sentiments thereon.—His Excellency has been much gratified by the natural fertility and beauty of the country in general; and having paid very minute attention to the progress of husbandry in this widely extended colony, feels that he has much to commend in the general industry of the settlers, and in the progress they have made in the clearing of their lands, and the preparing them for the growth of grain.—His Excellency is also happy in observing, that the very increased extent of land at present under grain, providentially favoured by the fineness of the season, and the redundancy of the crops, give full promise of a most plentiful harvest, to crown the best wishes of the industrious husbandman.—The banks of the rivers Hawkesbury and Nepean, in particular, hold forth the prospect of a most luxuriant harvest.

His Excellency, however, cannot forbear expressing his regret, that the settlers in general have not paid that attention to domestic comfort which they ought to do, by erecting commodious residences for themselves, and suitable housing for the

reception of their grain and cattle; nor can he refrain from observing on the miserable clothing of many of the people, whose means of providing decent apparel, at least, are sufficiently obvious to leave them without any excuse for that neglect.—His Excellency, therefore, earnestly recommends and trusts, that they will pay more attention to those very important objects; and, by a strict regard to economy and temperance, that they will, on his next annual tour, enable him to give a more unqualified approbation to their exertions.

His Excellency has been sorry to find, that the landholders of the lower class are in general very inadequately supplied with horned cattle, sheep, or goats; and being anxious to render them every facility in his power towards their possessing the advantages of live stock, is pleased to make known to them, that such persons as do not already possess those comforts and advantages, may be supplied from the government herds with one cow each, on the following terms, *namely*, payment to be made for the same in grain or money, as may be most convenient to the purchaser, in eighteen months after receiving her; but none need apply for such indulgence, except those who can bring unquestionable vouchers for their honesty and industry, and are ready to give good security for their retaining such cow and her offspring in their own possession for the course of three years from the time of receiving her.—They may be further accommodated with a proportion of sheep from the government flocks, under the same restrictions.—With such assistance from government, and the steady exertion of industry on the part of the settlers themselves, the governor is fully convinced that they may very shortly become as happy, thriving, and prosperous a people as any other throughout His Majesty's extensive dominions.

The frequent inundations of the

rivers Hawkesbury and Nepean having been hitherto attended with the most calamitous effects with regard to the crops growing in their vicinity, and of consequence of most serious injury to the necessary subsistence of the colony, the governor has deemed it expedient (in order to guard as far as human foresight can extend against the recurrence of such calamities), to erect certain townships on the most convenient and eligible high grounds in the several districts subject to those inundations, for the purpose of rendering every possible accommodation and security to the settlers, whose farms are exposed to the floods. In pursuance of this plan, and with a view to the prosperity of the country, he has already fixed on the most eligible situations within the several districts bordering on those rivers, and has marked out upon the commons or unoccupied crown lands, the situations where the townships are to be established, and each settler will be assigned an allotment of ground for a dwelling house, offices, garden, corn-yard, and stock-yard, proportioned to the extent of the farm he holds within the influence of the floods; but it is to be clearly understood, that the allotments so given being intended as places of security for the produce of the lands on the banks of the Hawkesbury and Nepean, cannot be sold or alienated in any manner whatever, but with the farms to which they are from the commencement to be annexed, and they are to be always considered as forming an inseparable part of the said farms.

The governor has accordingly marked out five separate townships, *namely*, one for the district of the Green Hills, which he has called *Windsor*; one for Richmond Hill district, to be called *Richmond*; one for the Nelson district, to be called *Pitt Town*; one for the Phillip district, to be called *Wilberforce*; and one for the Nepean, or Evan district, to be called *Castlereagh*.—Directions are already given to the

several constables within those districts, immediately to ascertain and to make a return of the names of all those settlers whose farms are subject to be flooded, together with the number of their respective families, extent of their farms, and number of their flocks and herds:—Said report or return is in the first instance to be made to William Cox, Esq. principal magistrate at the Hawkesbury, and agreeably to a formal already prescribed; from whom it is to be transmitted to his Excellency, who will thereupon instruct the acting surveyor to mark out the several allotments, so as to enable the settlers to commence with the least possible delay the business of erecting houses, and removing thither. The dwelling houses are to be either made of brick, or weather-boarded; to have brick chimnies, and shingled roofs; and no dwelling house is to be less than nine feet high.—A plan of a dwelling-house and offices will be left with each district constable, to which each settler must conform in the erecting his buildings.

His Excellency having extended his views also to the situation of the settlers on George's River, has deemed it expedient to mark out the situation for a township on the west side (or left bank) of that river, in the district of Minto, to which he has given the name of *Liverpool*. The situation of this town is admirably calculated for trade and navigation, being immediately on the bank of the river where the depth of water is sufficient to float vessels of very considerable burthen. At this town it is intended very soon to erect a church, a school-house, a gaol, a guard-house, &c. Leases of commodious and adequate allotments for houses and gardens will be given to such free mechanics and tradesmen as may feel disposed to form a permanent residence there, on their giving regular and due security for their building comfortable and substantial houses, conformably to a

plan that will be shewn them on application to Thomas Moore, Esq. the chief magistrate in that district. Good tradesmen and mechanics settling at *Liverpool* will have the liberty of a large and contiguous common for grazing cattle, which is assigned for the benefit of the township; and those persons who have not milch cows will be supplied with one cow to each such person, from the government herds, for payment, on advantageous conditions. — All applications on these heads are to be made to Thomas Moore, Esq. who will explain the terms on which allotments may be obtained.

Many applications for small grants of land having been made to the governor previous to his proceeding on his late tour by various free persons, his Excellency has been at much pains during his tour to seek out and select a suitable tract of good land for their accommodation. His Excellency has it now in his power to say, that he has discovered and examined a very rich tract of land, situated between the Bunbury Curian Creek and George's River, abounding in excellent pasturage, a good soil for cultivation, and well supplied with water. This tract of land his Excellency means to form into a distinct district, which is in future to be called *Airds*. Such free persons as are anxious to procure small grants in that district are directed to make their applications in writing to the secretary at Sydney, either on or before the 15th day of January next. These applications are to describe the applicants' present place of residence, together with their trade, or the employment they follow; and they are also to produce a certificate of good conduct, signed by the magistrate or chief constable of the districts wherein they reside. Such persons as cannot procure unquestionable

vouchers for their honesty, industry, and sobriety, need not make any application, as it is his Excellency's determination to extend such indulgences only to the deserving and industrious part of the community.

By command of his Excellency
the Governor,

J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

His Excellency the governor returned to Sydney on Thursday last, having been absent thirty-seven days, after having completed an extensive tour through every part of this settlement; in the progress of which he visited George's River, Northern Boundary, Field of Mars, Concord, Liberty Plains, Bankham Hills, Castle Hill, Prospect, Nepean, Cow Pastures, South Creek, Richmond Hill, the Hawkesbury, and the different districts in the neighbourhood of those places. — His Excellency also explored the recently discovered river called by the natives *Warragonbie*, which falls into the Nepean near Mulgoa, and which he traced in a boat for three miles and a half from its confluence with the latter river, at which distance his further progress was arrested by the first fall. The banks of this river are beautifully picturesque, finely clothed with wood, and in most places above four hundred feet high from the level of the water.

December 22nd.

Government House, Sydney,
Saturday, Dec. 22, 1810.

On Tuesday next, the 25th instant, being Christmas Day, by divine permission it is intended that the Church of St. Philip, at Sydney, shall be consecrated by the Rev. Samuel Marsden, principal chaplain.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Trial of Colonel Johnston.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL George Johnston was now brought to trial in England, for his conduct, while major of the New South Wales Corps or 102nd regiment of foot, at Sydney, in the arrest and suspension of governor, now rear-admiral, Bligh, on the 26th of January, 1808. The general court-martial which tried him was held at Chelsea Hospital on the 7th of May, 1811, and continued by adjournment to the 5th of the following month.

Admiral Bligh addressed the court in a speech, in which he stated the circumstances already related.

Colonel Johnston in his defence observed, " that the remoteness of the country, in which the event in question had taken place, but still more, the space of time which, by unnecessary delays on the part of the prosecutor, had since elapsed, deprived him, the defendant, of no inconsiderable portion of the evidence, which he could otherwise have adduced.—To *him*

the office either of prosecutor or defendant in a court-martial, was the more embarrassing as being perfectly *new*; he had neither been the *cause* nor the *object* of *condemnations* or *acquittals* or *reprimands*.—Should his conduct have been erroneous, he was at least conscious of the purity of his motives. His sole design had been to save an interesting colony from a situation the most dreadful.—He would produce satisfactory evidence of violations of public justice and private property, and of a general harshness in conduct and grossness in manners, on the part of the late governor, which seemed almost purposely calculated to produce the effect they *did* produce,—an universal disgust.—He had particularly to state, as a circumstance entitled to the deep consideration of the court, that the *military* participated in these sentiments. To judge of this portion of His Majesty's army, as then circumstanced, exactly upon the principles, upon which the feelings or the situation of any other part of it might be estimated, would be grossly to deceive oneself. In many points of view, its case was perfectly novel. Unavoidable circumstances had nearly identified the soldiers with the other inhabitants of the colony. They had intermarried and lived with them; there was a community

of habits and affections. He was persuaded in his conscience, that no earthly power could have brought the military, on any occasion to act for many hours in opposition to them. In some instances, it was in fact a *common cause*. *They* too had, some of them, houses, in which the whole of their little property consisted; and in consequence of the unfeeling manner in which houses had been ordered to be pulled down, on the plea of their being encroachments upon government ground, they naturally partook of the same panic. Some of them had even implored their officers to take assignments of their leases, as a fancied security against such a proceeding on the part of the governor. —But though the *esprit de corps*, that useful prejudice of every soldier, had been weakened as to salutary purposes, yet in the case of the arrest and confinement of the six officers, (a design avowed by the governor), it might have taken its full swing of petulance and contempt of the civil power, without the possibility of any thing to counteract it, and have led to the most fearful consequences. Admitting the opposite supposition, —that the measure in question would have been considered by the military with the most perfect indifference, —what were we to say to the leaving a battalion nearly

without officers ! He was himself at that time incapacitated from any active regimental duty, and, had six of the officers been incarcerated, there would have been but two left besides himself for the military routine, and even one of these was at that time at an out-settlement. Had such a measure taken place, it would have been upon an ordinary calculation of chances, not improbable, and under the actual circumstances almost certain, that the military power would have been shortly in the hands of the non-commissioned officers.—He was not defending the six gentlemen in question. Acting to the best of their abilities, but acting out of their profession, they might mistake a point of law ; they might be bad lawyers ; but he ventured to press it as a matter of prudence and policy whether some indulgence and a more lenient hand, were not called for on this occasion ?—On his arrival in Sydney on the 26th, he was clamorously surrounded by a number of leading persons, who stormed him with prayers and entreaties to put the governor under arrest, as the last and only means of saving the colony. The moment was most critical and might have been most fatal. It seemed to him necessary to decide immediately. He determined on compliance ; but upon the

condition that the requisition should be made in writing. This was immediately assented to, and the requisition crowded with names. In this tremendous situation, the first object was to separate the soldiers from the other inhabitants. On looking abroad, he had observed them suspiciously and alarmingly mixed with them in numerous groupes. But here he must do them the justice to acknowledge that the first beat of drum called them instantaneously to their colours. He would not, for any advantage it might be to his argument, leave it in doubt that their behaviour as soldiers was perfect. What could induce the governor to allege that their conduct was outrageous, and that even the position of the guns on the parade had been altered so as to menace his house,—what in short could lead him into the mistake of so unfounded an assertion, he was at a loss to divine.—Four officers were now dispatched to the governor to inform him of the determination; and he himself almost immediately followed at the head of the troops. These, on their arrival, formed in line and stood at ease and in silence; nor was any insult offered to the governor either by them or any other person.—It might here be asked, why the troops, being in this amenable state, were not

then employed in supporting the measures of the governor? To this he answered (first putting his own personal consistency out of the question), that the troops were not then employed in any service repugnant to their feelings. But had their commanding officer led them against the discontented colonists, it was his opinion, that if a sense of discipline had held them together for that day, his authority would at least not have survived that night.

He desired to know to what principle, otherwise than a desire of performing a most painful duty, his conduct throughout the whole of this affair, could possibly be ascribed? What sinister motive, conceivable under such circumstances, could be fixed upon him, with a colour of common sense? The ambition and rapacity, which are supposed to prompt the crimes of the unprincipled violators of lawful authority, might be sought, but could not be found, in any part of his conduct. He proceeded immediately after the event in question, to the ordinary routine of his duties, or the occupations of his farm. His expenditure of public money (without however meaning to cast any reflection) was, during six months, less than a fifth, as he understood, of Governor Bligh's, during an equal period; having been only two thou-

sand instead of upwards of ten thousand pounds. The moment that a superior officer, Colonel Foveaux, arrived in the colony, he resigned the administration of it with far more pleasure than he had ever exercised it. His ambition lay in quiet and obscurity ; his rapacity consisted in the most parsimonious management of the public means.

It had been said, that as his first act, on the 26th, on resolving upon the governor's deposition, was to give orders for liberating Mr. M'Arthur from the prison to which he had been brought, out of the hands of his bail, the measures of that day might have been wholly dictated by motives of personal friendship, and feeling for his situation. Such motives would no doubt have been unjustifiable as influencing his public conduct. But the fact was, that whatever respect he might have for that gentleman, or wish to cultivate his acquaintance, the distance at which they lived from each other, and their attention to their several pursuits and occupations, had prevented any great intercourse between them ; nor had he ever in his public capacity, or in any instance whatever, shewn the smallest bias towards his interests. He felt indeed, with regard to the proposed *trial*, that it would have been no less than

the delivering an individual, without resource, into the hands of his personal enemy."

"Of the course of evidence which I shall pursue," said the colonel, "I can here only give a faint outline. The main fact which constitutes the foundation of the charge, I do not mean to deny. I certainly did put myself at the head of the New South Wales Corps, and seize, arrest and imprison Wm. Bligh, Esq., but I deny that I did begin, excite, cause or join in a mutiny; affirming that I yielded to irresistible necessity, and acted alike for the preservation of His Majesty's colony and the safety of Governor Bligh himself."

The prisoner again appealed to the court, upon the critical nature of the circumstances in which he had found himself placed, and the unimpeachable purity of his motives.

A large body of evidence was now adduced on both sides, for a number of successive days, after which Colonel Johnston enlarged upon his former observations.

Of the allegations of Governor Bligh's opponents, the principal seem to have been, the removal of houses in defiance of leases granted, and an undue interference in the administration of justice. In answer to the first of these

charges, he complained of much exaggeration of the circumstances, and pleaded the acquiescence of the parties, in consideration of a fair equivalent.—In support of the latter allegation an appeal was made on the part of the prisoner, to the testimony of Mr. Atkins, the judge-advocate. This witness, after what we believe a merited encomium on the good intentions and honourable character of the prosecutor, admitted that he had sometimes expressed himself with great violence, upon the legal proceedings in the colony. Such expressions, however, appear to have been rather the effect of an ill-managed zeal for, than meant as any opposition to the cause of justice. — With respect to the intemperance of language with which he was generally charged, the Admiral denied it in the extent attributed to him, but admitted that upon occasions of disagreeable or unseasonable importunity, he might sometimes have given way to the impatience of the moment.—He noticed the sarcasms, with which the prisoner had opened his defence, and which he supposed were meant to convey insinuations of austerity, violence or ill-nature, as exemplified in the general conduct of his life. With regard to any court-martials on which he had ever been arraigned, they were confined

to two instances, that of the *Bounty*, in which he was honourably acquitted, and another, when he commanded the *Warrior*, in which his lieutenant was prosecutor, and in which, he admitted that he received a caution from the court, to be more guarded in his language, or something to that effect.—Three times he had himself been a prosecutor, but could defy any insinuation that might be founded on that circumstance.—He concluded by generously disclaiming any other feeling on the present occasion, than what was essentially connected with his own vindication.

Upon the whole, Colonel Johnston was considered by the court, as having failed to establish a case of necessity, which could justify the extremity he had recourse to.

The following general orders were issued on the 2nd of July.

“ Horse-Guards, 2nd July, 1811.

*“ At a general court-martial, held at the
“ Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on the 7th of May
“ 1811, and continued by adjournments to the
“ 5th of June following, Lieut.-Col George
“ Johnston, major of the 102nd regiment, was
“ arraigned upon the undermentioned charge,
“ viz.—*

“ That Lieut.-Col. George Johnston, major
“ as aforesaid, did, on or about the 26th day
“ of January 1808, at Sydney, in the colony
“ of New South Wales, begin, excite, cause,
“ and join in, a mutiny, by putting himself at
“ the head of the New South Wales Corps,
“ then under his command and doing duty in
“ the colony, and seizing and causing to be
“ seized and arrested, and imprisoning and
“ causing to be imprisoned, by means of the
“ above-mentioned military force, the person
“ of William Bligh, Esq. then captain-general
“ and governor-in-chief in and over the terri-
“ tory of New South Wales. Upon which
“ charge the court have come to the following
“ decision :—

‘ The court having duly and maturely
‘ weighed and considered the whole of the
‘ evidence adduced on the prosecution, as well
‘ as what has been offered in defence, are of
‘ opinion that Lieut.-Col. Johnston is Guilty
‘ of the act of mutiny as described in the
‘ charge, and do therefore sentence him to be
‘ cashiered.’

“ His royal highness the Prince Regent, in
“ the name and on the behalf of His Majesty,
“ was pleased, under all the circumstances of

“ this case, to acquiesce in the sentence of the
“ court.”

The Prince Regent, in confirming this sentence, animadverted very forcibly on the extreme gravity of the offence ; to which he observed the punishment inflicted, to be inadequate, on any principle but that of the peculiarity of the circumstances of the case. This however he was pleased to admit as an extenuation, in the present instance ; but His Royal Highness expressed himself anxious to guard against the most distant possibility of any future application of, or reliance upon such a principle, as a vindication of any proceeding of a nature so subversive of order and discipline.

*Sydney Gazette; or, New South Wales Advertiser,
January 19th, 1811.*

NOTICE.

At a meeting of the principal land-holders of this settlement, held at Sydney, this 18th of January, 1811, to take into consideration some plan for the destruction of the native dogs, and to establish a fund for the purpose, it was resolved, that one gallon of spirits, or one pound sterling, be given to any person producing the complete skin of a full-grown native dog.—That half a gallon of spirits, or ten shillings sterling be given to every person producing the complete skin of a native pup.—That the Rev. S. Marsden, Gregory Blaxland and Thomas Moore, Esqrs. be requested to receive the subscriptions, and pay for the same as they may be produced.—That these resolutions continue in force six months from this date. Amount subscribed this day 80l.

Sydney, Jan. 18, 1811.

—
March 2nd.

SALT.

An establishment having been formed at considerable expense, which will prevent the necessity of any further importation of this article from England, and relieve the colony from the serious inconvenience hitherto experienced in the want of salt, that could with certainty be relied on for the curing of meat; the public can now obtain it warranted, to be equally purified from all injurious qualities, to have the same strength, and to preserve meat with the same safety at any period of the year, as the best that can be imported from England, without injuring its flavour or wast-

ing the flesh, as has hitherto been so much the case.

The whole is prepared precisely in the same manner as the celebrated British Droitwich Salt, and is manufactured on so large a scale, as to enable it to be sold at a lower price than the most inferior hitherto made.

Delivered at Mr. Blaxcell's warehouse, Sydney, at 2d. per lb. by the cwt. or at 5s. per 28lbs.—Three months credit to dealers.—Purchasers for the fishery may send this salt to sea, without apprehension of its liquifying or wasting in any weather.

STRAYED

From Woollamoola, on Saturday the 16th ultimo, a grey filly, in company with a bay mare and colt. Whoever will give information whereby the said filly may be recovered, to Mr. Sutton, storekeeper, shall receive forty shillings reward, and any person known to keep up the same after this notice, will be prosecuted according to law.

The public are informed, that the present year's almanack is in the hands of the binder, and will be delivered without further delay, the past having been occasioned by a want of paper that would answer the purpose until the Hibernia's arrival, on the 22nd of October; to make the best possible amends for which, however, the whole of the police regulations are introduced.

—
March 9th.

Sitting magistrate—W. Broughton, Esq.

Assize of bread the same as last week.

Average price of articles at last Saturday's market:—Wheat, 14s. 4½d. per bushel; maize, 5s. per ditto; potatoes, 15s. per cwt.; fowls, 5s. 6d. per couple; eggs, 3s. per dozen; mutton, beef, and pork, 1s. 2½d. per pound.

The accounts late from Hobart Town are pleasant with respect to the last harvest. The number of acres of wheat are by a gentleman arrived from thence estimated at about 1500, the average produce of which he considers to have been full twenty-eight bushels per acre. A curious comparative calculation has been also received by the Campbell Macquarie, upon different kinds of grain produced at the above settlement; from the apparent precision of which we make no doubt that the same care was bestowed in the culture of each species. The following is the report.

Peruvian wheat, a fine bold grain, 2 grains produced 77 ears, weighing 10 ounces 4 drachms.

English wheat, a clear rich grain, 1 grain produced 47 ears, weighing 6 ounces 11 drachms.

Bengal wheat, a small grain, 1 grain produced 32 ears, weighing 3 ounces 7 drachms.

Peas.—Marrowfats: one pea produced 25 pods, containing 153 peas.

Blue Persian, one pea produced 23 pods, containing 125 peas.

Grey peas, one pea produced 44 pods, containing 248 peas.

Dwarfs. One pea produced 32 pods, containing 166 peas.

Common field peas. One pea produced 37 pods, containing 196 peas.

March 23rd.

LIME.

The contractors for building the General Hospital are ready to treat

for the supply in certain quantities weekly, of from twenty to thirty thousand bushels of good lime. The lowest tender will be taken.—Apply to Mr. Blaxcell or Mr. Riley.

March 30th.

Government House, Sydney,
March 30th, 1811.

The providential subsiding of the late flood in the Hawkesbury and South Creek, which has now taken place without any very serious consequences, when compared with the destruction of grain and property of every kind which has of late years been attendant on the frequent inundations of those rivers, and of the Nepean, induces his Excellency the governor to admonish the settlers contiguous to those rivers, in the most earnest manner, to beware of the recurrence of those calamities which have for many years past exposed those parts to the imminent risk of a total destruction of grain and animal food.—And as the only effectual way of guarding against those risks is the removing the stock-yards and residences of the settlers from their present insecure situations, his Excellency most strongly recommends to the settlers on the banks of those rivers, to remove from thence to the High Grounds in the several townships lately marked out for the respective districts, under the influence of those floods. Those settlers who will avail themselves immediately of this salutary admonition, by removing their residences, stock, and farm-yards to the allotted townships, may depend on his Excellency's extending to them every reasonable assistance and indulgence in his power; whilst on the contrary, such persons as will obstinately persevere in exposing themselves, their families, and their property to the destruction necessarily attendant on their residing within the influence of the inundations of those rivers,

having themselves totally to blame for any misfortunes of that nature which may attend them, need not look to government for relief, after being thus called upon to adopt the necessary means of guarding against them.—As the season for sowing wheat for the next harvest will be over in the course of the month of June, the settlers will then have leisure from their farming avocations, to employ themselves in the erection of suitable buildings for their future residences in the new townships; and his Excellency trusts and expects, that they will avail themselves of that opportunity to place themselves and their families in those situations of comfort and security, which it has been his Excellency's most anxious wish to provide for them, and to which they are now for the last time required to repair with all convenient expedition.

LACHLAN MACQUARIE.

By command of his Excellency,
J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

Sitting magistrate—S. Lord, Esq.

Bread the same as before.

Average price of wheat at last Saturday's market, 14s. 9½d. per bushel.

The rains at the latter end of the last month had nearly been attended with the most distressing consequences to the colony; but by the merciful interposition of Divine Providence the threatened danger has been happily averted, and the widely extended settlement of Hawkesbury happily rescued from a deluge, the most dreadful apprehensions from which had been excited in the minds of many whose property seemed devoted, and to whom no human aid could have been of any possible avail.

On Saturday morning the 23rd ultimo, the water was much discoloured, and began to rise; as it con-

tinued to do the whole of that and the following day, when it was supposed to have attained the height of the flood at the beginning of 1801, which proved fatal to Mr. Stogdell. At noon on Monday it was at its extreme height, and in the course of the afternoon it began perceptibly to abate.

The corn-grounds in low situations have been in consequence laid waste, and as the long preceding drought had left no prospect of any being produced in the more elevated grounds, all hopes of a maize crop on the banks of the Hawkesbury for the present year, are nearly extinct.

Among the stock that has perished we are sorry to enumerate several valuable horses; one the property of the Rev. Mr. Marsden; another belonging to Mr. Williamson, of Paramatta; a mare and filly of Mr. Lock's, both of which were since found dead in the South Creek, and several others were missing, but their fate not known.

Mr. Samuel Craft, we are no less sorry to learn, has lost from four to five hundred bushels of wheat. His farm is between Windsor and Cornwallis Place; is one of the lowest situations on the banks of the river. The wheat was contained in a stack, which did not float away, but sunk and went to pieces, owing to its becoming top-heavy from the deluges of rain that had previously fallen.

Clark and Martin suffered a similar disaster, and we lament to add, are poor industrious men with large families.

A vessel of 40 tons the property of Mr. Dowling, parted her cable on Sunday morning about three miles below the township of Windsor, and drifted to a considerable distance before she could be brought to again.—She had 1300 bushels of wheat and barley in her, none of which was lost.—Mr. Miller's vessel, the William and Mary, was in like manner drifted by the impetuosity of the current from Mr. Cobcraft's farm down to Portland Head, where

her further progress was restrained by the exertions of a Mr. Johnston and his family.

Mr. Cox, the resident magistrate at Hawkesbury, took his station at Windsor at the commencement of the fresh, and to his active exertions many were indebted for the safety of their lives and property, in which labour a number of individuals joined with an ardour that cannot be sufficiently commended.

We have much satisfaction in stating that no human being whatever has been reported absent, from which we may conclude that no fellow-creature has been lost in this flood, and that its total consequences are happily found to be much less severe than the most flattering imagination could have suggested a conception of.

Now killing, at Matthew Pimp-ton's, Cumberland Street, Rocks, beef, mutton, pork, and lamb. By retail, 1s. 4d. per lb. Mutton by the carcase, 1s. per lb. sterling, or 14d. currency, warranted to weigh from 10lbs. to 12lbs. per quarter; lamb per ditto.—Captains of ships supplied at the wholesale price, and with punctuality.

N.B. Beef, pork, mutton, and lamb, at E. Lamb's, Hunter Street, at the above prices.

April 27th.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week—W. Broughton, Esq.

Assize of bread for the ensuing week, 8d. per loaf.

Average price of articles at last Saturday's market:—Wheat, 15s. 8d. per bushel; barley, 6s. per ditto; maize, 7s. per ditto; potatoes, 18s. per cwt.; fowls, 6s. per couple; eggs, 3s. 6d. per dozen.

May 4th.

GOVERNMENT PUBLIC NOTICE.

Secretary's Office, Sydney,
20th April, 1811.

His Excellency the governor is pleased thus to inform the public, that he is at present occupied in revising and examining the grants and leases of land which had been made to different persons during the late usurpation of the government of this country; and which grants and leases had been declared null and void by his Excellency's proclamation on his assuming this government, on the first day of January, 1810. It having been his Excellency's intention, however, from the commencement, to make out a new such, of those grants as should appear to have been made to industrious and deserving characters, free of partiality or party motive; Notice is hereby given, that such grants and leases as come under the above description will be ready for delivery at my office on Friday, the 24th day of May next ensuing, and the following days, until the whole of such renewed grants and leases shall be issued to those persons for whom they are intended. Such persons as do not call for and take out their grants or leases within two months from the said 24th day of May, will be considered as having entirely relinquished all claim and title thereto, and those lands will be granted or leased to other persons.

His Excellency the governor is also pleased to give notice, that all those persons who have applied for and obtained his Excellency's promise of a portion of horned cattle and sheep, on the terms of the government and general orders of the 15th of December last, may receive the number so promised them, on their executing the usual and prescribed bonds for them. These bonds will be ready for their executing at the commissary's office, in Sydney, on Monday the 20th day

of May next, and for the five following days; but no person need make application without giving at that time good and sufficient security for the value of the said horned cattle and sheep.

J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday the 24th of April, arrived the colonial schooner Governor Bligh, from Port Dalrymple, with the agreeable intelligence that the last wheat crop had been very abundant; all provisions very cheap; stock of all kinds increasing in every abundance that could be hoped; and that the Rev. Mr. Knopwood, A. M. had made an over-land excursion thither from Hobart Town, and remained three weeks; during which short interval he had united in the holy bands of matrimony six-and-twenty couple, and baptised a number of infants, among whom were two of the native tribe that had been received into the protection of two gentlemen, whose names were made part of the baptismal appellations given to the boys, one of whom was named Charles Mountgarret Launceston, the other William Lyttleton Quamby, having been picked up on Quamby Plains.

The American ship Brutus, Captain Dorr, had been at Port Dalrymple about the 20th of February, and from thence had gone to the Derwent.

May 18th.

SHIP NEWS.

Yesterday arrived from Otaheite the schooner Endeavour, Mr. Walker master, with 22 tons of pork. The Trial, Captain Folger, was at Emeo when last heard of by Mr. Walker, who reports her having procured about nine or ten tons of sandal wood, at the island of Tobooey.

June 15th.

SALT PORK AND FLAIR.

On sale, at the warehouse of Mrs. S. Willis, 96, George Street, a large quantity of the above articles, well cured, being the Mercury's last importation from Otaheite. The terms per cask are, 10d. per lb. sterling, or 1s. currency.

N.B. For the accommodation of families it will be sold in quantities not less than 112lbs.

For sale, at the house of Mr. I. Nichols, a quantity of salt pork and flair. Payment to be made in sterling money or colonial currency.

Mrs. Reibey informs her friends and the public in general, that she has a quantity of prime salted pork and flair for sale, at her house, Macquarie Place.

NOTICE.

The subscribers to the Sydney Race Course, who intend to run their horses at the ensuing races for the cup given by the ladies of the colony, must name them to the clerk of the course, on or before the 1st day of July.

The subscribers to the Sydney Race Course are requested to pay the amount of their subscription for the present year into the hands of the treasurer, as soon as possible, to enable him to close the accounts previous to his leaving the colony.

July 20th.

TO BE LET OR SOLD,

At Paramatta, a capital windmill, in thorough condition, capable of grinding six bushels of wheat an hour, and cannot want any repair for the next ten years. Any person or persons desirous of treating for the same are requested to apply to J. Bolger, Phillip Street, Sydney.

Last week a horde of the branch natives beset a herd of swine belonging to Mr. Dyke, settler at the first branch of the River Hawkesbury; of which they drove away three large pigs, and wantonly speared two very large sows, both of which died immediately of their wounds.

August 3rd.

This day his Excellency the governor and Mrs. Macquarie, his honor the lieutenant-governor and Mrs. O'Connell, Mr. and Mrs. Bent, and the officers of his Excellency's staff returned to town from a short visit to Paramatta.

On Tuesday last the court of civil jurisdiction closed its sittings.

This evening a black whale came into the harbour, and when near Bennelong's Point was perceived from the Cato, whose boats immediately pursued and killed it. As soon as it was struck it made towards the Heads, but turning into Rose Bay, was there secured, and towed along-side the ship.

August 10th.

A CARD.

It is requested that those gentlemen who have not paid their subscriptions to the Sydney races for the past or present year, will pay them into the hands of the clerk of the course, previous to the races on Monday next.

August 17th.

Messrs. Lord and Williams having through the assistance of Mr. Reuben Uther at length brought to perfection the manufacturing of hats in this

colony, of an equal if not superior quality to those generally imported herein, and at considerably reduced prices, which they hope and trust will be found a valuable and important acquisition to this territory, as well from superseding the necessity of any future importations of that article, as from the facility with which it may be constantly supplied, respectfully announce to the public, that the above business will be carried on at the manufactory of Messrs. Lord and Williams, in Macquarie Place, under the immediate direction and management of Mr. Reuben Uther, and that the most prompt attention will from time to time be paid to the commands of such ladies and gentlemen as may please to honour them with their encouragement in this manufactory; and though the proprietors expect to have an assortment speedily prepared for sale, yet when the article is bespoke to size and quality every attention will be exerted to finish and furnish it within the required time, so as to answer the purposes of general as well as private accommodation.

August 31st.

Andrew Byrne, Sea-View, near Botany Bay, respectfully begs leave to acquaint the public, that he has a capital run for brood mares and horses at the above-mentioned place, which will be taken every possible care of on the most reasonable terms.

September 21st.

SHIP NEWS.

On Wednesday the 11th arrived the Cyclops, Capt. Campbell, from the pearl fishery, and last from Otaheite, with forty tons of pearl shell, and about six ounces of pearl, and six or seven tons of salted pork.

Last Wednesday sailed the India-

possible whaler, Capt. Best, to cruise off New Zealand to complete her cargo, and then to proceed for London direct.

September 28th.

PORT WINE BY RETAIL.

J. Chisholm having purchased a supply of red port wine, is enabled to supply the public with the same at 8s. per bottle, in currency or copper coin, at his house in George Street, opposite the barracks.

October 5th.

GOVERNMENT PUBLIC NOTICE.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
5th October, 1811.

His Excellency the governor, anxious for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Sydney, and in pursuance of the intentions signified in his general orders of the 6th of October last, gives this public notice, that he has assigned, and caused to be marked out and measured, a large common in the immediate vicinity of Sydney, containing one thousand acres, for the common pasturage of the cattle belonging to the inhabitants of Sydney:—The public are to take notice, that the said commonage is described by the acting surveyor in the following terms, “bounded on the west side by twenty-eight chains of Surrey-Hill Farm, and a south line of ninety-six chains, on the south side by an east line of ninety-seven chains, on the east side by a north line to the road leading from Sydney to the South Head, and on the north side by that road.”—For the purpose however of making said description and boundaries more clearly understood and known, the limits of said commonage will be further marked by four posts with suitable labels,

which will be erected on the most conspicuous angles or parts thereof.

This land being thus assigned for the use of the public, no excuse can be made for persons in future turning their cattle at large to seek food where it may be most easily found, without considering whether they may not trespass on private property, and do material injury to the gardens and enclosures of other persons; and the public are therefore cautioned not to permit any horses, horned cattle, sheep, goats, or pigs to stray in future, either upon the grounds called Hyde Park, or on any private property belonging to other persons; as all cattle which may be thus found trespassing are to be taken up, and put into the common pound of Sydney, until all damage incurred by them shall be fully discharged.

His Excellency thus communicates to the public, that he will make a regular grant of said common lands to the judge-advocate and magistrates of Sydney, for the time-being, in trust for the benefit of the present, and of all succeeding inhabitants of Sydney.

By command of his Excellency
the Governor,
J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

FOUND.

Between Sydney and Paramatta, by a gentleman, on Monday last, A Bank of England Note for a considerable amount.—It is now in the hands of Mr. Secretary Campbell, who will be happy in delivering it to its proper owner.

October 19th.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

Secretary's Office, Sydney,
19th October, 1811.

Those persons who have been accommodated during the course of the present week with female servants from the convicts per the ship

Friends, are required on Thursday next to enter into the usual securities for the retaining such servants in their possession, and for their treating them well.—Those who obtained servants at Sydney are to pass their securities at the secretary's office; and those who obtained servants at Paramatta are to pass their securities with the commandant at that station, Lieutenant Durie.

By command of his Excellency the Governor,
J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

Major Cleaveland and Lieutenant Ovens, of the 73rd, and Captain Piper, of the 102nd regiment, embarked for England this evening, on board the *Providence*, *via* China; and were accompanied by his Excellency the governor and Mrs. Macquarie, and a large party, composed of the principal officers. The boats went from the Government Wharf at half-past six, and reached the vessel about seven; where the distinguished visitors remained until half-past eight, when they took a final leave of those officers, whose polished manners and benevolence of disposition had endeared them to all classes of inhabitants, and consequently must have rendered the adieu! peculiarly interesting to the feelings of those who in an elevated sphere enjoyed the pleasure of a more intimate acquaintance. On returning to their boats, a salute was fired from the ship in honor of his Excellency, and at nine the company returned to Government House.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

A fine hunt took place the 8th instant at the Nepean; of which the following is the account given by a gentleman present:—"Having cast off by the government hut on the Nepean, and drawn the cover in that neighbourhood, for a native dog unsuccessfully, we tried the forest ground for a kangaroo, which we soon found. It went off in excellent style along the sands by

the river side; and crossed to the Cow-pasture Plains, running a circle of about two miles, then re-crossed, taking a direction for Mr. Campbell's stock-yard, and from thence at the back of Badge Allen Hill to the head of Boorroobaham Creek, where he was headed; from thence he took the main range of hills between the Badge Allen and Badge Allenabinjee in a straight direction for Mr. Throsbey's farm, where the hounds ran in to him, and he was killed after a good run of about two hours.—The weight of the animal was upwards of 120lbs.

Some time since I lent a gentleman of this colony the first volume of the Attorney's Pocket-Book Companion, to take a precedent out of, if he will be pleased to return it, as I suppose it must have escaped his memory, I shall thank him; but should it have fallen into the hands of any other person, on their restoring it to me I shall pay them one pound for their trouble, as it can be of little service to any person, the set being broken.

WM. FLEMING, Attorney.
No. 32, Phillip Street.

George Cook, long known as the first carriage builder in this colony, begs to acquaint the public that he has returned from sea after eighteen months absence, and is now ready to engage in making or repairing chaises, carts, and carriages of all kinds, at the shortest notice, and on the most reasonable terms, at Richard Harding's, Hunter Street.—*No cure no pay.*

Ships' blocks, dead-eyes, &c. furnished at the lowest prices.

October 26th.

The wall inclosing the scite of the intended General Hospital being now nearly completed, his Excellency the governor has appointed to lay the first stone of the principal building at twelve o'clock on Wednesday.

November 2nd.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
Saturday, Nov. 2, 1811.

The commander of the forces has infinite pleasure in announcing to the troops serving in this territory, the re-appointment of his royal highness the Duke of York to be commander-in-chief of the army, as communicated in the following general order, received per the Thames whaler, recently arrived from England, at the River Derwent in Van Dieman's Land.

"Horse Guards, May 25, 1811.

"His royal highness the Prince Regent, in the name and behalf of His Majesty, has been pleased to appoint field-marshal his royal highness the Duke of York to be commander-in-chief of the army, in the room of General Sir David Dundas, who has obtained his royal highness the Prince Regent's permission to resign that appointment.

"By command of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent,
"HARRY CALVERT,
"Adjutant General."

November 9th.

At an early hour on Monday last his Excellency Governor Macquarie and his lady took their departure from hence for Van Dieman's Land, that being a part of this great and widely extended territory which his Excellency had not before visited: its distance from Sydney is about seven hundred miles.—Considering the very favourable wind which has regularly continued to blow since his Excellency's sailing, and that the government schooner Lady Nelson, which conveys him, is a fast sailing vessel, we have little doubt that he has arrived at the Derwent by this time.

We understand it is his Excel-

lency's intention, after making such arrangements at Hobart Town as may appear most likely to improve it, and to benefit the inhabitants, to proceed from thence over-land to Port Dalrymple, being a distance of one hundred and twenty miles, to make similar arrangements there, and generally to inform himself of the nature and quality of the soil, and of the productions of the country at large. These beneficent purposes being effected, it is his Excellency's intention to re-embark at Port Dalrymple, to which place the Lady Nelson will be directed to proceed from the Derwent. On his return voyage his Excellency will have an opportunity of seeing the various islands interspersed through Bass's Straits; and we trust we shall be enabled to announce his happy return to Sydney about the first of the New Year.

His Excellency is attended by Capt. Antill, brigade major, Lieut. Maclaine, aide-de-camp, and Mr. Meehan, the acting surveyor general.

December 14th.

SHIP NEWS.

This day arrived the Favorite, Captain Fisk, from Hobart Town, which she left on the 5th of the present month, with the agreeable intelligence of the safe arrival there, on the 23rd ultimo, of his Excellency the governor and Mrs. Macquarie, and suite, having gone round in an open boat from Frederick Henry Bay, where they had been obliged to leave the Lady Nelson, owing to contrary winds.

His Excellency, on his arrival, received a loyal and appropriate address from the inhabitants of Hobart Town, and another from the settlers at New Norfolk: to both which he was pleased to return suitable answers.

The Lady Nelson did not arrive at Hobart Town till the 26th, and

was about sailing round for Port Dakrymple when the Favorite came away: for which settlement his Excellency and lady were expected to set out over-land upon the 2nd instant.

We have the further satisfaction to state, that the harvest at the above highly improving settlement was very luxuriant; and that the inhabitants were tolerably supplied by recent arrivals from this place with Europe and India commodities.

December 28th.

At a late hour on Christmas Eve, as Captain Austin Forrest, of Richmond (formerly of Calcutta) was returning home from Windsor, he was unfortunately killed by a fall from his horse. The body was found between twelve and one on Christmas morning, shortly after the melancholy accident had taken place; and on Friday the remains of this much lamented gentleman were interred at Windsor; on which occasion a large company of gentlemen assembled, among whom were the commanders of the India vessels in the port, and the principal merchants, to pay the last duties of respect to a highly respectable and meritorious character. The deceased has left a widow to regret her loss, and we may add, without the danger of contradiction, that every one who had the slightest knowledge of Captain Forrest will sensibly participate in the feelings of his afflicted widow.

February 6th, 1812.

CURIOSITIES OF THE SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

On sale, at No. 11, Pitt Street, nearly opposite Mr. Packer's, a valuable collection of curiosities from Otaheite, Toongataboo, and various newly discovered islands in

the Pacific Ocean; consisting of spears and clubs beautifully carved; bows, arrows, and other implements of war; the breast-plate of a chief of incomparable workmanship; mats, plain and printed cloth, shells, pearl fish-hooks, and various other rare articles, the whole of which will be disposed of at moderate prices.

February 29th.

GROSE FARM.

To be let upon lease, for a term of 5, 7, 10, or 14 years, about 250 acres of land, 25 of which are enclosed, together with a garden, dwelling house, and out-buildings, well watered, and very conveniently situated for a dairy, being within two miles of Sydney, the property of the Female Orphan Institution, and known by the name of Grose Farm. —Proposals to be left at the Orphan House, Sydney, or application to be made to the Rev. S. Marsden, Paramatta.

To the correspondent who transmits an invective under the specious appearance of a *pun*, we state that such matter cannot obtain admission in this paper.

BIRTHS.

On Tuesday last Mrs. Gaudry, of a son. — On Friday Mrs. Underwood, also of a son.

April 18th.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Mrs. E. Walker, Princess Street, Rocks, begs leave to acquaint ladies, that having acquired a proficiency in the manufacture of straw hats and bonnets, and being in possession also of the latest English fashions, she will be proud to receive and punctual in observing any commands with which she may be honoured, either in making, mending,

bleaching, or altering to the newest modes, every article in the above branch, on reasonable terms.

May 30th.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
Monday, May 25, 1812.

His Excellency the governor has received instructions from His Majesty's ministers to make the necessary arrangements for placing the settlement of Port Dalrymple as a dependency on that of Hobart Town, on the River Derwent, in Van Dieman's Land, that the officer commanding at the former settlement should be subject to the orders, superintendence, and general control of the commandant of Hobart Town; and that all unnecessary offices and appointments now existing at the former settlement should be abolished, in order to lessen the expenses thereof as much as possible to the crown.

In pursuance of these instructions, his Excellency now commands and directs that the settlement of Port Dalrymple shall accordingly become a dependency on that of Hobart Town from and after the 30th day of the next month of June.

(Signed) LACHLAN MACQUARIE.
By command of his Excellency,
H. C. ANTILL,
Major of Brigade.

A CARD.

The stewards of the Sydney races inform the members that the regular annual meeting will be held at the 73rd mess room, on Friday, the 5th of June next, at the hour of eleven o'clock in the forenoon.—A ballot will then take place for the election of new members.

Dinner will be provided at the Sydney Tavern, in George Street, on that day; and such members as mean to dine there are requested to give their names in, and to take

tickets for the occasion from Mr. Nichols, on or before the 3rd of June.

The race course being now preparing for the ensuing races, it is requested that gentlemen will not in future ride or drive their carriages over it.

Such gentlemen as have not paid their subscription for the present year are requested to pay it to the treasurer, Lieutenant Eggar, on or before the 5th of June, as he has to lay his accounts before the meeting on that day.

Sydney, 30th May, 1812.

June 20th.

MARRIED,

On Wednesday last, by the Rev. Mr. Marsden, at St. John's Church, Paramatta, Walter Lang, Esq. recently from India, to Miss Elizabeth Harris, niece of Mr. James Larra, of George Street, Paramatta.

July 18th.

MARRIED,

By special license, on Tuesday last, by the Rev. Mr. Marsden, at the church of St. John, Paramatta, Mr. Henry Nott, missionary, from Otaheite, to Miss Ann Charlotte Turner, from the London Missionary Society.

BIRTH.

On Sunday last, the 12th instant, at his house in Macquarie Place, the lady of EMs Bent, Esq. judge-advocate, of a daughter.

August 1st.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
Saturday, July 25, 1812.

A court of criminal jurisdiction will assemble at the Court House, at

Sydney, on Monday, the 10th of the next month of August, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, for the trial of all such prisoners as shall be brought before it.

The 73rd regiment will furnish three captains and three subalterns, as members for the criminal court. Their names and dates of their commissions are to be sent in on Tuesday, the 28th instant, to the major of brigade.

By command of his Excellency
the Governor,
H. C. ANTILL, Major of Brigade.

A CARD.

Mr. J. W. Lewin begs leave to inform his friends and the public in general, that he intends opening an academy for painting, on the days of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from the hours of 10 to 12 in the forenoon. — Terms, five shillings a lesson; entrance 20s.

N.B. The evening academy for drawing continued as usual.

Mrs. Jones having opened a seminary for the education of young ladies, at No. 45, Castlereagh Street, respectively informs such parents as may be inclined to entrust her with the care of their daughters, that every possible attention will be paid to their manners and morals.

Proper masters will attend to instruct in dancing, drawing, and every other elegant accomplishment which may be required.

WANTED,

Three or four fallers of timber, to undertake the clearing of 100 acres of land, within three miles of Sydney. — Apply to Mr. Wilshire, Brickfield Hill.

August 3rd.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week, W. Broughton, Esq.

Assize of bread as before.

Average price of articles at last Saturday's market: — Wheat, 10s. 10½d per bushel; maize, 6s. per ditto; potatoes, 10s. per cwt.; fowls, 6s. per couple; eggs, 2s. 6d. per dozen.

The Sydney races commence on Monday the 17th; and we may of course expect a numerous list of visitors from all part of the colony during the ensuing week.

Upon the racing days it is to be hoped that persons who keep dogs will secure them at home, and not allow them to be at the course, an inattention to which precaution might be attended with very serious, if not fatal consequences to the riders, one of whom received a dangerous and painful fall at a former race, owing to a dog's crossing the course.

This morning a pick-pocket was detected in the market in the act of disburthening an elderly matron of a pocket-book, containing all the produce of her vegetable sales. — Upon detection, the delinquent was seized by the old lady, and made an effort to escape, but in vain: for so determined was she in maintaining her grasp, that his exertion proved ineffectual. The chief constable happening fortunately to be at hand, the villain was secured, and taken before the superintendent of police, who ordered him fifty lashes, and close imprisonment in the gaol during the intervals of labour, as he was already a prisoner.

The new road to South Head, so far as it is now carried, presents to the inhabitants of the town a beautiful avenue of recreation, either as a pleasant ride or promenade, that attracts the wonder of the meditating passenger who reflects, that scarce a twelvemonth has elapsed since the smooth and level course that now invites him onward, exhibited a wild, almost impenetrable. As once the captive Briton, while

he graced the Roman triumph fixed his attentive eye upon a chariot wheel, and sadly mused upon the rise which one spoke had upon another's fall, now may not we, in grateful, in contrasted contemplation fondly dwell upon our benefits, and gladly hail the splendid dawn that animates our prospects. In the object now before us, we are presented with an advantage which intense labour only could produce; and from the locality of which the inhabitants of Sydney peculiarly are to benefit. By voluntary subscription the plan has been proceeded in; and happy we are to say, that in the truest sense of the word the contribution has been voluntary. Much, much has been accomplished, but something yet remains to render the work effectual. An additional subscription for this excellent purpose will answer its completion upon the liberal scale pursued; and if we may aspire to the phrase that animates the British bosom, this, as a National undertaking, will entitle our little community to the gratifying eulogium of a spirited exertion.

August 15th.

**GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE AND ORDER.**
Secretary's Office, Sydney,
10th August, 1812.

The extraordinary increase of curs and mongrel dogs of a base and worthless description (notwithstanding the public notice given on that subject on the 11th of August, 1810), rendering the streets of Sydney dangerous to all persons passing through them, whether on foot, horseback, or in carriages, it is necessary to call the attention of the inhabitants at large to the redress of this serious evil.

His Excellency the governor is therefore pleased to express a hope, that the inhabitants of Sydney will take immediate measures for the

destruction of those degenerate and useless animals, or at least for the confinement of them within the limits of the owners' premises so as to prevent their continuing a public annoyance in the streets, and thereby do away the necessity for resorting to other more compulsory measures for the preserving the good order and safety of the town.

As the annual races will commence with the ensuing week, the inhabitants are particularly called on to secure such of their dogs as they do not destroy, so that they shall not wander to the course, where they will not only interrupt the sport, but may also be productive of fatal accidents to the riders.

During the race week, the constables and their assistants are strictly enjoined to destroy all dogs of whatever description which they may find on the course, or within the limits of the racing ground.

By command of his Excellency
the Governor,

J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

August 29th.

A. CARD.

Mr. Bowden, master of the Public School, Sydney, respectfully informs merchants, shopkeepers, and others, that he has constructed a set of tables for the purpose of shewing the value in currency of any sum sterling from a halfpenny up to 500*l*. and at any rate per cent. from 20 to 50, or from 4*s*. to 10*s*. to the pound; whereby many calculations are prevented, and persons little accustomed to figures readily assisted in ascertaining the value of property, or store receipts, paymaster's bills, &c.—This will be found very useful in the shop or counting-house.

N.B. To be had only at his house,
No. 1, George Street.

September 12th.

On Monday last a severe hail-storm was experienced in the vicinity of George's River, which lasted about twenty minutes. Some of the hail-stones were of prodigious size, and are reported to have killed a number of fowls, and very much prejudiced the gardens of several persons.

A gentleman's servant being on the South-Head road last Tuesday with a couple of small terriers, saw them both engaged in the pursuit of one object, which upon near observation proved to be a large snake, which the dogs killed; but one of the animals had been unfortunately wounded by its adversary, and died within ten minutes after the conflict.

The verdure of spring begins again to decorate the fields, which the devastation occasioned by the grub, immediately before the present winter, had in many places totally laid waste. The flocks and herds will benefit by the change, as those that were wholly dependent on the spontaneous gifts of nature have long found but scanty pasturage.

Query from a correspondent.—When grain is plentiful and cheap; when it is known that the stock of living animals in the country are in a flourishing state of increase, having had no serious check since the flood of 1806, what can be the reason that butcher's meat still sells at the enormous price of *eighteen-pence per pound*?

September 19th.

SHIP NEWS.

By the *Unity* have returned, passengers from Port Dalrymple, John Birch, Esq. paymaster, and Lieutenant Lundin, of the 73rd regiment. The former gentleman has imported a beautiful young horse, which from

its breed may be esteemed a valuable acquisition to the colony. Mr. Birch has also brought up a native boy of Van Dieman's Land, who in his infancy had been withdrawn from the state for which the destinies had otherwise designed him, and has consequently little but the difference of feature and complexion to distinguish him from the European.

The brig *Active*, Capt. Lealie, was at Frederick Henry Bay whaling, and at the beginning of the present month had killed seven or eight fish.

The schooner *Unity*, in her way from hence to the settlements on Van Dieman's Land, the beginning of last month lay two days in Two-fold Bay, where four of her people landed with a small boat on the south side for the purpose of shooting at an extensive lagoon, whither they had to convey their boat about 100 yards over land; just as they had accomplished which, they found themselves perfectly hemmed in by several hundreds of natives, who immediately attacked them with a flight of spears ejected with a furious velocity from every quarter. To keep the assailants in check the small party had only two muskets, one of which was in a much impaired state. By a temperate mode of action, and only discharging occasionally at such as had the temerity to advance nearer than the others, they succeeded in re-crossing to the sea-shore with their boat, by placing her thwarts beneath the keel, and launching her along. A number of the spears thrown struck the vehicle, and were frequently supposed by the people to have passed through the bodies of each other; but no less miraculously than fortunately, they reached the sea-side without a wound, and thence escaped.

DIED.

At Hobart Town, Van Dieman's Land, on the 22nd ultimo, Lieut. Bredon, of the Royal Marines.

September 26th.

The flattering accounts received of the quality of samples of wool sent from hence to the mother country has induced several opulent persons who had bestowed considerable attention on the improvement of their flocks, now more seriously to apply themselves to that object, which time may possibly render of the very first importance to this colony.

The brig Active, while whaling in Frederick Henry Bay, about a month since, lost one of her boatmen, an Otaheitan; who getting unfortunately entangled in a line to which a whale was fast, was snatched out of the boat, and never more appeared.

—
October 10th.

GOVERNMENT PUBLIC NOTICE.

Secretary's Office, Sydney,
10th October, 1812.

It being intended to open a public road of equal width with the present road to Paramatta, from Browne's Half-way House on the latter, and thence to Liverpool or George's River, a distance of about eleven miles; notice is hereby given, that such persons as may be disposed to contract for the making of said road are to send in written proposals or tenders for the construction of it, to Thomas Moore, Esq. at Liverpool, on or before Tuesday, the 10th day of November next ensuing.

By command of his Excellency
the Governor,
J. T. CAMPBELL, Sec.

—
October 31st.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
Tuesday, Oct. 27, 1812.

The commander of the forces publishes the following appointments

and promotions, recently received by him from His Royal Highness the commander-in-chief, per the Minstrel transport, for the information and guidance of the troops serving in this territory.

"Horse Guards, May 12, 1812.

"Sir,

"I have received His Royal Highness the commander-in-chief's direction to acquaint you, that the Prince Regent, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, has been pleased to appoint you to serve as brigadier-general upon the staff of the forces serving in New South Wales, from the 25th of November, 1811.

"I have the honour to be, sir,

"your most obedient

"humble servant,

(Signed) "HARRY CALVERT,

"Adjutant-General."

Brig.-Gen. L. Macquarie, }
73rd regiment.

Head Quarters, Sydney,
Friday, Oct. 30, 1812.

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent has been graciously pleased, in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, to make the following promotions and appointments.

Major Thomas Davey, of the Royal Marines, to be lieutenant-governor of the settlements on Van Dieman's Land, on the southern coast of New South Wales:—Date of commission, 1st September, 1811.

War Office, Dec. 31, 1811.

Major Thomas Davey, of the Royal Marines, to be lieutenant-colonel in New South Wales only.

By command of his Excellency
the Governor,
H. C. ANTILL, Major of Brigade.

—
November 29th.

The hail-storm of Saturday's evening, the dreadful effects of which at George's River we noticed in our

last, has been to Mr. Throsby's agricultural concerns the most distressing calamity that could possibly have befallen him. Out of ninety acres of wheat, all of luxuriant growth, a single ear has not been saved; and notwithstanding the excessive heat of the weather the day after the hail fell, yet, strange to remark, some of the hail-stones, after laying on the ground *twenty-six* hours, measured four inches round. The brains of a pigeon were literally dashed out by one of the stones, and several sheep were killed, more probably, we should consider, from the cold, as they were newly shorn, than by the hail, though attributed to the latter cause.

December 5th.

Ten rams of the Merino breed, lately sold by auction from the flocks of John M^cArthur, Esq. produced upwards of 200 guineas.

Several coats made of the wool of New South Wales entirely, are now in the country, and are of a most excellent quality. One of these, a box coat, made of the refuse wool, that is, of the wool that remained after all the best samples were taken out, appears to be equal in quality to the generality of second cloths, and seems really to assert a pre-

ference from the superior softness of its texture.

December 12th.

Mrs. Jones with great respect informs the parents and guardians of the young ladies entrusted to her tuition, that the vacation ball is fixed for Tuesday, the 22nd instant, at the seminary, No 45, Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each.

Apricots were this morning brought to market for the first time this season.

December 19th.

Sitting magistrate for the ensuing week—S. Lord, Esq.

Yesterday morning his Excellency the governor and Mrs. Macquarie returned to Sydney, from their tour through the agricultural settlements.

This morning's market had a pretty general supply of all vegetables in season.—Potatoes were very plentiful, and sold from 6s. to 8s. per cwt. A good deal of new wheat was sold at prices varying from 6s. to 10s. per bushel—a difference occasioned by an inferiority produced by blights.

CHAPTER XXX.

Parliamentary Report.

THE following is the report of a committee of the House of Commons upon the affairs of New South Wales, ordered by the house to be printed July 10th, 1812.

“ The principal settlement on the eastern coast of New South Wales, was formed in 1788. It is situated in latitude 33° south, longitude 170° east. The most considerable district, is that of Sydney, containing, by the return dated the 1st of March 1810, 6,158 inhabitants. Paramatta contains 1,807; Hawkesbury, 2,389; and Newcastle, 100. Of the total number 10,454, 5,513 are men, 2,220 women, and 2,721 children. Of these, from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{5}$ are convicts; but the returns of their number have been so irregular, that your committee have not been able precisely to ascertain it. But they hope that this neglect will be corrected by the orders lately sent out from this country. The troops are about 1,100 in

number, and the remainder are free persons. In addition to these, are the settlements of Port Dalrymple and Hobart's Town, in Van Dieman's Land, about five degrees to the south of Sydney, containing 1,321 inhabitants; and at the date of the last returns, 177 persons were living in Norfolk Island, but orders have been since sent out for its total abandonment. These last excepted, the settlements in New South Wales are bounded on the west by mountains, known by the name of the Blue Mountains, beyond which, no one has yet been able to penetrate the country; some have with difficulty been as far as 100 miles from the coast; but beyond 60 miles, it appears to be nowhere practicable for agricultural purposes; and, in many places, the diameter of the habitable country is much less: the extent in length, from Port Stephens to Port Jervis, comprises from north to south about four degrees, beyond which, it is stated, that these settlements will not be capable of extension; and of the land within these boundaries, about one half is said to be absolutely barren. The ground actually in cultivation, amounts to rather more than 21,000 acres, and 74,000 acres are held in pasture. The stock appears to be considerable; by the return in 1810, the

amount was,—horses, 521; mares, 593; bulls, 193; cows, 6,351; oxen, 4,732; sheep, 33,818; goats, 1,732; hogs, 8,992. Of these, a small proportion is kept by government; of which, part is killed for the supply of the public store, and the remainder is made use of to stock the farms of new settlers. It appears from the evidence, that the colony has for some years, except when the crops have failed, from inundations or other accidental causes, been able wholly to supply itself with corn; but that it is still necessary to continue, to a certain extent, the importation of salted provisions. The soil and climate are described to be extremely fine, healthy, and productive; diseases, with the exception of such as arise from intemperance or accident, are little known; and fresh fruits and vegetables are produced from the beginning to the end of the year. The river Hawkesbury is however occasionally subject to violent and sudden floods, which have in some instances totally destroyed the produce of the farms in its vicinity, upon which the colony principally depends for its subsistence. Great difficulties have in consequence at times occurred; and though precautions are now taken to remove the crops as soon as possible from the low grounds in the neighbour-

hood of the river, no perfect security is yet obtained against the recurrence of these disasters. The out-settlements of Port Dalrymple and Hobart's Town in Van Dieman's Land, are represented as enjoying a purer climate and more productive soil than New South Wales in general, and to be otherwise prosperous and thriving. Yet your committee must concur in the opinion already expressed by His Majesty's government, that more benefit to the colony will be derived from the cultivation and improvement of the settlements that are already formed, than from the formation of new and distant establishments, whatever may be the encouragement that a fertile soil or an advantageous situation may appear to hold out.

The currency of the colony consists principally of government paper and copper money, but from its scarcity, many of the transactions which in other countries would be accomplished by money, are here carried on by barter; thus the labourer is not paid in money but in kind: he demands from his employer such articles as he is most in need of, and they are delivered to him at the prices which they bear in the market. At times indeed wheat and cattle have in the courts of justice been considered as legal tender in payment of

debts. To remedy these inconveniences, a supply of silver coin, to the amount of 10,000*l.* has lately been sent to the colony ; but whilst the necessity of large importations continues, with the restraints upon exportation, it is not likely that this coin will long remain there in circulation. The exportations from the colony have hitherto principally consisted of oil, seal-skins, coals and wool ; the fisheries appear to have been much neglected ; and the iron ore, of which there is abundance, and of very fine quality, has not yet been worked. The trade in skins and coals is the most thriving, but is much straightened by the restrictions in favour of the East India Company. The stock of sheep is not yet sufficiently large to make wool an article of large exportation. The culture of hemp has been less attended to than might have been expected ; a profitable trade in sandal wood has at times been, though illegally, carried on with the South Sea Islands and China ; woollen manufactories, potteries, and breweries have been established, but not with any great success. The commercial regulations of the colony have in many instances been so impolitic as much to discourage mercantile speculation ; for many years a maximum price was imposed by the governor upon

all imported merchandize; and at this price, often too low to afford a fair profit to the trader, the whole cargo was distributed amongst the civil and military officers of the settlement, who alone had liberty to purchase; and articles of the first necessity were afterwards retailed by them, at an enormous profit, to the poorer settlers. Part of these abuses were corrected in the year 1800; but in the traffic of spirituous liquors, they continued to a very late period, and it is therefore with the greatest satisfaction that your committee have learnt that measures have been enforced, as well by the government here as in the colony, to put an end to these practices. It is stated in a dispatch from Governor Macquarie, dated April 30th, 1810, that every care will be taken to prevent the officers of the 73rd regiment now in New South Wales, from resorting to any low or unmilitary occupations, either mercantile or agricultural, for additional means of support; and he justly adds, that such pursuits and avocations are subversive of all military discipline, and incompatible with the rank and character of officers in His Majesty's service. And it is to be hoped that means will also have been devised to restrain the civil officers from making, as has been too often the case, the

authority of their stations the means of promoting their own mercenary views. It will be for the executive government to consider how far the memorial of the officers praying for an increase of pay, in consequence of the deprivation of these emoluments, is to be attended to. But it does not appear to your committee that the military officer is in New South Wales exposed to such hardship, or obliged to incur such expense, as to entitle him to benefits not generally bestowed upon officers of the British army. Your committee have also learnt with satisfaction, that many of the improper restrictions, by which commercial speculation has been thwarted in the colony, have been put an end to. The imposition of a maximum price upon all imported articles of merchandize, has been discontinued. The maximum on the price of grain and butcher's meat is no longer in existence ; and though a similar limit to the price of labour was formerly frequently attempted, it has been, as might be expected, always either evaded or disregarded. One commercial regulation appears however to be still in full force, which, in the opinion of your committee, ought immediately to be rescinded ; it is that by which no ship is allowed to dispose of any merchandize in Van

Dieman's Land, unless it shall have previously touched at Port Jackson. By this restriction all mercantile enterprise is at once put an end to in the dependent settlements; and supplies, absolutely essential to the support of its inhabitants, may in their greatest necessity be delayed to them. The impolicy and injustice of this regulation are so apparent, that your committee trust it will not long remain in existence.

The greatest difficulties to which the government has been subject, have arisen in its attempts to regulate the supply of spirituous liquors. Their importation used to be limited by licences granted by the governor: on the arrival of a cargo, he fixed the price at which it was to be sold, and distributed it at this price, which was generally very low, to the persons highest in authority in the settlement. The liquors were afterwards paid away by them as wages to their labourers, or retailed at a very advanced rate to such of the inhabitants as wished to become purchasers; and the eagerness for spirituous liquors has been so great in the colony, that the gains made in this traffic have been enormous. The temptations too to smuggling and illicit distillation are so great, and their facilities in that thinly inha-

bited country so numerous, that all attempts to check a clandestine supply have proved in vain; and the qualities of the liquor thus obtained, are generally infinitely worse and more unwholesome than of that which is legally imported. Governor Macquarie states in his dispatch, dated April 30, 1810, that the various measures that have been hitherto taken to check the importation and regulate the sale of spirits have invariably failed; and as it is impossible totally to suppress the use of them, a certain quantity being essentially necessary for the accommodation of the inhabitants, it appears to him that it would be good and sound policy to sanction the free importation of good spirits, under a high duty of not less than three or four shillings per gallon. He expects, from this measure, to put an end to all further attempts at monopoly; and bartering spirits for corn and necessaries, and to private stills, which, in defiance of every precaution, are still very numerous in the colony; and he is persuaded that this measure, instead of promoting drunkenness and idleness, will tend rather to lessen both. Governor Macquarie's suggestion met with the approbation of the government of this country, and orders were sent out to permit the free importation of spirits, under a

duty of not less than four shillings per gallon. Upon this subject your committee entirely agree with Governor Macquarie in opinion, that a less limited supply of spirituous liquors will not give that encouragement to idleness and ebriety which, at the first view of the subject, naturally presents itself as an objection to the extended importation: it has been stated before them repeatedly in evidence, that the scarcity of spirits has had no further effect than to stimulate the avidity with which they were sought; and that in times when the supply has been most regular and abundant, drunkenness has been the least prevalent. But they are of opinion, that an unlimited supply of spirits may be furnished to the colony in a manner much more conducive to its interests than by permitting a free importation. The want of an extended corn-market, where the prices are regulated by a fair and liberal competition, is much felt in the colony. Of 10,454 inhabitants, 4,277 are wholly, or in great part, victualled from the public store; and three-fifths of the corn brought to market are purchased by the governor, at a price, over which, from the largeness of his demand, he has always a power of control, and which many governors have taken upon themselves absolutely to limit, so as

scarcely to afford to the farmers a fair profit for their produce ; and in the distant parts of the settlement, they have been known to feed their pigs with the corn for which they could not obtain a sufficient price. From the occasional overflowing of the Hawkesbury, and consequent scarcities, a larger cultivation of corn than is necessary for the mere annual subsistence of the colony, is extremely desirable : and your committee are of opinion, that an enlarged market, great encouragement to agriculture, and a free supply of spirits, may be afforded to the colony, without losing the revenue which would be produced by the duties on importation, if distillation within the colony were permitted under proper duties and regulations ; and they confidently suggest, that this is a measure which ought to be substituted for that proposed by Governor Macquarie ; it would extend agricultural speculation,—it would be a resource in times of scarcity, and, with proper attention, would afford a better spirit than has been hitherto imported ; for the importations have, for the most part, been of Bengal and American rum. But your committee must at the same time regret, that an impediment has arisen to the immediate alteration of the present system, from a contract

entered into by Governor Macquarie, under which certain merchants have agreed to build an hospital for the settlement, on being allowed, during the ensuing three years, exclusively to purchase spirits at the government price, no other spirits being permitted, within that time, to be imported into the colony by private individuals.

The courts of judicature are instituted by commission ; the civil court is called the court of civil jurisdiction, and consists of the judge-advocate, and two respectable inhabitants of the colony, to be from time to time appointed by the governor ; and they have full power to hear and determine, in a summary way, “all manner of personal pleas whatsoever:” they have also full power to grant probates of wills, and administration of the personal estates of intestates dying within the settlement ; and if either party find him, her, or themselves aggrieved by any judgment or decree given or pronounced by the said court, he, she, or they shall and may appeal to the governor, or in case of his absence or death, to the lieutenant-governor ; and if any party shall find him, her, or themselves aggrieved by the judgment or determination of the said governor, in any case where the debt or thing in demand shall exceed

the value of 300*l.* such party so aggrieved may appeal to the King in council. An allowance, to be fixed at the discretion of the court, is to be made by all complainants, at whose suit any person shall be imprisoned, to such defendants, provided such defendant make oath that he has no estate or effect sufficient to maintain himself. It is in evidence that this allowance has been fixed at 6*d.* per day, which is not more in value than 4*d.* in this country. It appears also, that no convict can, during the time of his servitude, sue or be sued in these courts, or suffer imprisonment for any debt incurred by him. By the same commission, a court of criminal jurisdiction is established upon the authority of the Act 27 Geo. III. c. 2. It is a court of record, with all such powers as are incident to courts of record in England ; it consists of the judge-advocate and six officers of the sea and land service, to be convened from time to time by precept, under the hand and seal of the governor, with power (having taken the oaths directed in the commission) to hear and determine all crimes committed within the settlement, and to cause punishment to be inflicted according to the laws of England, as nearly as may be, considering and allowing for the circumstances and situation of the place and

settlement aforesaid, and the inhabitants thereof. The verdict to be by the opinion of the major part of the court; if the offence be capital, the court may pronounce judgment of death, or of any punishment not amounting to death, which to the court shall seem meet. But unless five of the persons sitting in the court, shall concur in the verdict, execution of any judgment of death shall not be had or done until the proceedings shall have been transmitted to this country, and the pleasure of the King had thereon; and in no capital case is the sentence to be executed without the consent of the governor, who has power to suspend such execution until he have the direction of His Majesty. Your committee have to observe, that all the evidence examined on the subject, unequivocally condemns the manner in which the criminal courts are thus established. Governor Bligh having stated that they consisted principally of military officers, proceeds—"It did not give satisfaction to the inhabitants, —they were particularly desirous that they might not be so much in the power of the military, but might have some kind of justice that might bring them nearer to their brethren in Great Britain." He also states that there were settlers sufficient in character

and numbers to furnish juries; and thinks their decisions would have been fairer than those that took place without them. Similar to his, are the opinions of Governor Hunter, Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Campbell, and upon their evidence your committee are of opinion, that the manner of administering criminal justice may be altered with great advantage to the colony. It is not to be expected that its inhabitants should view, otherwise than with jealousy and discontent, a system which resembles rather a court martial than the mode of trial the advantages of which they have been accustomed to see and to enjoy in their own country. However necessary it may have been, at the first foundation of the settlement, thus to constitute the courts, as well from the default of other members as from the refractory habits of the persons then composing the colony; that necessity has now ceased to exist; a numerous class of respectable persons is now formed within the settlement, amply sufficient to warrant the establishment of that trial by jury, for which they are anxiously wishing. But upon this subject your committee particularly refer to a memorial of Mr. Bent, the judge-advocate, whose views have met with the approbation of Governor Macquarie; in which the inconve-

niences of the present system are most ably and clearly detailed, and such regulations are suggested, as appear to your committee to be most worthy the attention and consideration of the government. It is stated in the evidence, that the natives of the country find the same protection in these courts of justice with the subjects of the King. Yet your committee have observed with surprise, in a report of the prisoners tried before the court of criminal jurisdiction in March 1810, that a person charged with shooting at and wounding a native, was tried simply for an assault, whilst another who had committed a similar offence against an European, was tried on the same day for his life. It appears proper to your committee here to remark, that great inconveniences are felt in the colonies in Van Dieman's Land, from the want of a court of justice. The jurisdiction of the magistrates is all that the inhabitants have to look to for their protection against offenders; and for the settlement of civil differences, they have no power within the colony of appealing to the law; all causes and great offences are removed for trial to Port Jackson, at an inconvenience and expense too manifest to need any remark; a judge-advocate is already appointed, and the

additional expense to be incurred by the complete formation of a court, adapted to the male population of that colony, would not be great. The commission and instructions under which the governor acts, are given at length in the appendix. He is made governor and captain-general, with the most enlarged powers, uncontrolled by any council, with authority to pardon all offences (treason and murder excepted), to impose duties, to grant lands, and to issue colonial regulations. It is in evidence from Governor Bligh, that to the breach of some of these regulations, issued at the sole will of the governor, a punishment of five hundred lashes is annexed, and to others a fine of 100*l*. The manner in which these extensive powers have been used, has not always been such as to give satisfaction to the colony; nor can it be expected, where so much authority and responsibility are thrown into the hands of one man, that his will however just, and his administration however wise, will not at times create opposition and discontent amongst men unused, in their own country, to see so great a monopoly of power. Under this impression, your committee think it right to recommend, that a council be given to the governor, for the purpose of sharing with him in the responsibility

of the measures which they may think necessary for the security or prosperity of the colony. It may perhaps be doubted how far it will be wise to limit the authority of the governor over a colony in which, more than any other, the government ought to be strong and unfettered; but the views of your committee would to some degree be obtained, even though the council appointed had no other power than that of protesting against any measures of the governor of which they might disapprove; and of transmitting their protests to the secretary of state. The acquiescence of the council would give popularity to the measures of which it approved, and its expressed disapprobation might have the effect of checking such as were evidently inexpedient.

The governor has the power of making grants of land; and your committee have heard with surprise, that this power has, in one instance at least, been used in a manner, to say the least of it, liable to much observation. It has been stated in evidence, that a grant of land to the amount of 1000 acres, was made by a governor, to the person appointed to succeed him, who, immediately on assuming the government, made a similar grant to his predecessor. Upon this your committee must

suggest, that no governor ought on his own account to enter into farming speculations; his salary ought to be sufficient to support him; he ought never to look to other and indirect means of enriching himself.

For many years the governor was restrained from granting longer leases within the town of Sydney, than for the period of fourteen years. This impolitic regulation, which caused much discontent, and materially checked all enterprise in building, has lately been rescinded. Many settlers have been sent out from this country by government, to whom grants of land, sometimes to a large amount, have been made; and in many instances their want of capital, of character, and agricultural knowledge, have exposed them to difficulties on their arrival, and excited complaints against them for misconduct. Your committee are glad to learn that greater precautions are now taken in the selection of these persons than appears formerly to have been the case. None are allowed to go out as free settlers, unless they can prove themselves to be possessed of sufficient property to establish themselves there without the assistance of government, and who can produce the most satisfactory testimonials and recommendations from persons of known

respectability ; the person allowed to go, is then recommended to the governor, to whose discretion it is left to make what grant of land he may think expedient. The form of the answer which is given to all applicants, and one of the letters of recommendation, upon the model of which they are generally drawn, are to be found in the appendix. Your committee wish, however, to suggest that it ought to be made a principle, in selecting these persons, to give the preference to those who have been previously accustomed to agricultural pursuits.

Though the religious feeling in the colony appears to have been weak, latterly the erection of places of worship, and the establishment of clergymen, have not been neglected. Churches have been built at Sydney and Paramatta, and in Hawkesbury the service was performed in houses appropriated to that purpose ; and to each of these districts clergymen have been appointed, with a sufficient provision from government. In Governor Hunter's time, the attendance of the convicts was enforced at church. This compulsion appears to have been neglected during the government of Admiral Bligh ; though during the hours of divine service all loitering was forbidden in the town of Sydney. No restraint is imposed on

those professing a different religion, and Roman Catholic clergymen have been allowed to perform the rites of their church; registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials, are regularly kept, and many schools have been established. The Orphan Female School, supported by port duties and fines, has flourished almost from the first settlement of the colony, and a Male Orphan School, on a similar plan, has lately been established; several private schools are also open, and the education of youth appears by no means to be neglected, though the want of proper masters has been much felt at different periods.

Your committee have been thus particular in detailing the regulations, and the natural and commercial advantages of the settlement, because they strongly feel that its improvement in wealth, and the means of properly employing and reforming the convicts, are essential to the progress of each other; if the prosperity of the colony be checked by unwholesome restrictions, the exertions and industry of the convicts cannot be advantageously called into action during their servitude, and but little inducement will be held out to them to become settlers after their emancipation. They will now pro-

ceed to detail the manner in which the transportation of the convicts is conducted, and what are their government and treatment within the colony.

When the hulks are full up to their establishment, and the convicted offenders in the different counties are beginning to accumulate, a vessel is taken up for the purpose of conveying a part of them to New South Wales. A selection is in the first instance made of all the male convicts under the age of fifty, who are sentenced to transportation for life and for fourteen years; and the number is filled up with such from amongst those sentenced to transportation for seven years, as are the most unruly in the hulks, or are convicted of the most atrocious crimes: with respect to female convicts, it has been customary to send, without any exception, all whose state of health will admit of it, and whose age does not exceed forty-five years.

The Irish convicts have generally been sent with less selection than those from England; and this has arisen from the want of hulks, and other means of confining and employing them, which are here often substituted for transportation; but as this is a subject now under arrangement, and occupying much of the

attention of the Irish government, your committee forbear making any observations upon it.

The evidence of Mr. M'Leay distinctly and satisfactorily explains the manner in which they are transported. An order is received from the treasury at the Transport Office, to take up vessels for New South Wales. They are advertised for, and the lowest tender accepted. Clothing and provisions for the support of the convicts during the voyage, and nine months afterwards, are sent from the Victualling Office, and medicines are furnished from Apothecaries Hall. An account of the stores allowed for one hundred male or female convicts, is to be found in the appendix. The owner of the vessel provides a surgeon, who undergoes an examination at Surgeon's Hall and the Transport Office. He is instructed to keep a diary not only of the illness on board but of the number of convicts admitted on deck; of the scraping the decks, cleaning the births, and general treatment of the transports. The sick are to be visited twice a day, the healthy once. He is ordered to take the greatest precaution against infection, and to fumigate the clothes of those taken to the hospital. He has not only power to use medicines,

but also the stores, if any sick be in want of greater nourishment. He is further instructed to transmit to the secretary of state, any observations which may occur to him productive of improvement in the mode of treatment, and he is paid a gratuity of 10*s.* 6*d.* for every convict landed in New South Wales. The instructions to the master are equally satisfactory. He is to be particularly cautious to receive no diseased person on board during the voyage; a proportion of the prisoners is daily to be admitted upon deck, and the births of all cleaned and aired; and these things are to be noted in the log-book, which is afterwards submitted to the governor of New South Wales; and if the conduct of the master appears to have been satisfactory, he receives a gratuity of 50*l.* If the contrary should turn out to be the case, a power of mulcting him is given by the contract, and he becomes liable to a prosecution. The ration of provision is fixed, and appears to be amply sufficient for the support of the men; about two hundred men or women are generally embarked on board one ship, with a guard of thirty men and an officer. Such are the present regulations for the voyage; and however bad the treatment of the convicts on board the vessels may formerly have been, the present

system appears to your committee to be unobjectionable. The witnesses speak of it in terms of high commendation, particularly two of those who have been sent out as convicts. Governor Macquarie, in his last dispatches, mentions the good treatment of the prisoners on board the two transports last sent out; and a still stronger proof of the improvement in the mode of conveyance is, that from the year 1795 to 1801, of 3,833 convicts embarked, 385 died on board the transports, being nearly 1 in 10; but since 1801, of 2,398 embarked, 52 only have died on the passage, being 1 in 46. The only further observation your committee have to make on this part of the subject is, one of regret that no arrangement whatever is made for the performance of divine service during this six months voyage; that this, which is the heaviest part of their punishment, is also the least likely to produce reformation. With the dispatches from government a list of the convicts is generally sent, but this list has for the most part been very deficient in particularising the offences of which they have been convicted; and in distributing them upon their arrival, the governor has no clue to guide him in giving to them more or less advantageous situations, according to the nature of

their crimes and characters: this is a neglect easy and at the same time most necessary to be corrected. Upon the arrival of a transport, general orders are issued for returns of the number of men wanted, with the land held in cultivation by each settler. The trade, age, character, and capacity of the convicts are, as far as possible, investigated; the artificers are in general reserved for the service of government, and as many of the others as may be wanted. Persons who have been in a higher situation in life, have tickets of leave given to them, by which they have liberty to provide for themselves, and are exempt from all compulsory labour; similar tickets are given to men unused to active employment, as goldsmiths and others; the remainder are distributed amongst the settlers as servants and labourers. The convicts in the service of government, are divided into gangs,—every gang has an overseer, and every two or three gangs a superintendant; these are frequently chosen from amongst those convicts who best conduct themselves. They work from six in the morning till three in the afternoon, and the remainder of the day is allowed to them, to be spent either in amusement or profitable labour for themselves. They are clothed, fed, and for the

most part lodged by government; and though in the early periods of the colony, inconvenience and distress may have arisen from the irregularity of supply from this country, latterly the food and clothing have been good, and, generally speaking, in sufficient abundance. Should the convicts misconduct themselves at their work, the superintendants have no power of inflicting punishment, but are for that purpose obliged to take them before a magistrate; the sitting magistrate of the week at Sydney, may order a punishment of twenty-five lashes; a regular bench, which consists, at least of three, may order as many as three hundred; and in the distant parts of the colony, a single magistrate has the same power with the bench at Sydney; but a heavy punishment is not executed without the previous approbation of the governor. Another mode of correction, and that which your committee would recommend to be preferred, in as many cases as possible, is to sentence the culprit to work for a certain number of days in the gaol gang; he is here obliged to labour at some public work in irons, from six in the morning to six at night, and no hours are allowed to him for profit or amusement. The convicts distributed amongst the settlers, are clothed, supported, and lodged by

them; they work either by the task or for the same number of hours as the government convicts; and when their set labour is finished, are allowed to work on their own account. The master has no power over them of corporal punishment, and this can only be inflicted by the interference of a magistrate; even if the master be a magistrate himself, he can order no punishment to his own servant, but must have recourse to another magistrate. If the servant feels himself ill used by his master, he has power of complaining to a magistrate, who will, if the complaint be well founded, deprive the master of his servant. It is so much the interest of the settlers to keep their servants in good health, and to attend to their conduct, that your committee have heard no evidence but in commendation of their treatment, and of its effects upon their morals and comfort. Indeed it is most manifest that where two or three convicts are domiciled in a family, removed from their former companions, and forced into habits of industry and regularity, the chance of reformation must be infinitely greater than when they are worked in gangs, living with each other amidst all the inducements to vice which such a town as Sydney must afford to them; and such by all the

evidence appears to be the effect of this system of distributing them amongst the settlers. Nor is it to be lost sight of, that in the service of settlers they are likely to acquire some knowledge of farming ; and that if from convicts, they become well-behaved and industrious servants, a farther possibility is opened to them of becoming prosperous and respectable settlers. On these grounds your committee recommend as much as possible their distribution as servants and labourers to individuals ; and they have observed with much satisfaction, that such appears to be the system pursued at present by Governor Macquarie ; nor will such an arrangement materially increase the expense to government, or impede the progress of its works. It is to be found in the evidence of Mr. Commissary Palmer, that the expense of each convict in the service of government was about 40*l.* a year, and that a free labourer at Sydney could be hired for 70*l.* but that he would do nearly twice as much work. Mr. Campbell states the annual expense of a convict at 30*l.* but in the other point he agrees with Mr. Palmer. Some of the benefits of this system must be lost where too many convicts are given to one master, and in some instances forty have been put under the control of a

single settler; but from the extent of some of the farms, such a distribution appears to be unavoidable. In the distribution of female convicts great abuses have formerly prevailed; they were indiscriminately given to such of the inhabitants as demanded them, and were in general received rather as prostitutes than as servants; and so far from being induced to reform themselves, the disgraceful manner in which they were disposed of, operated as an encouragement to general depravity of manners. Upon the arrival of Governor Bligh, two-thirds of the children annually born within the colony were illegitimate. Marriages have latterly become more frequent, consequently prostitution is stated to have been less prevalent; and Governor Macquarie is directing his endeavours, under orders from the government here, “to keep the female convicts separate till they can properly be distributed among the inhabitants, in such manner as they may best derive the advantages of industry and good character.” He further states in his dispatch, dated April 30, 1810, that the situation of the colony requires that as many male convicts as possible should be sent thither, the prosperity of the country depending on their numbers; whilst, on the contrary,

female convicts are as great a drawback as the others are beneficial. To this observation your committee feel they cannot accede : they are aware that the women sent out are of the most abandoned description, and that in many instances they are likely to whet and to encourage the vices of the men, whilst but a small proportion will make any step towards reformation ; but yet, with all their vices, such women as these were the mothers of a great part of the inhabitants now existing in the colony, and from this stock only can a reasonable hope be held out of rapid increase to the population ; upon which increase, here as in all infant colonies, its growing prosperity in great measure depends. Let it be remembered too, how much misery and vice are likely to prevail in a society in which the women bear no proportion to the men ; in the colony at present, the number of men compared to that of women, is as 2 to 1 ; to this, in great measure, the prevalence of prostitution is reasonably to be attributed ; but increase that proportion, and the temptation to abandoned vices will also be increased, and the hopes of establishing feelings of decency and morality amongst the lower classes, will be still farther removed.

The supply of women to the colony must,

however, be materially diminished by the proposed system of employing convicts in Penitentiary Houses; and your committee think this an additional reason for affording increased facilities to the wives of male convicts, who may wish to accompany or follow their husbands to New South Wales. This permission is now seldom granted, and that only to the wives of men transported for life or for fourteen years. It is however the most eligible way of providing the colony with women, and one which may with very great advantage be much extended.

At the expiration of the time to which the convicts have been sentenced, their freedom is at once obtained, and they are at liberty either to return to this country, or to settle in New South Wales; should the latter be their choice, a grant is made to the unmarried, of forty acres of land, and to the married, of something more for the wife and each child; tools and stock (which they are not allowed to alienate), are also given to them, and for eighteen months they are victualled from the government stores. In this manner, they have an opportunity of establishing themselves in independence, and by proper conduct to regain a respectable place in society; and such instances, your committee are glad to learn, are not un-

frequent. They also see with satisfaction, that Governor Macquarie adopts it as a principle, “ that long-tried good conduct should lead a man back to that rank in society which he had forfeited, and do away, in as far as the case will admit, all retrospect of former bad conduct;” This appears to him to be the greatest “ inducement that can be held out towards the reformation of the manners of the inhabitants.” In these principles your committee cordially concur, and are the more anxious to express their opinion, as, under a former governor, transports, whatever their conduct might be, were in no instance permitted to hold places of trust and confidence, or even to come to the Government House; those advantages being, in his opinion, not to be expected until after generations.

The same advantages as are allowed to convicts having served their time, are given to those who have been pardoned or emancipated by the governor; and your committee do not wish to dismiss the subject, without making some observations upon the power possessed by him of granting to convicts either the entire or partial remission of their sentence, or tickets of leave, by which they are altogether relieved from its severity. They do not see any neces-

sity for the governor's possessing a power to grant these absolute or conditional pardons; it is a power liable to great abuse, and which appears to have been at times very much abused. It is in evidence, that in some years one hundred and fifty pardons have been granted; that pardons have been granted to convicts immediately upon their arrival, without reference to their characters or merits; and it appears rather to have at times been made an instrument to gain popularity, than the means of rewarding exemplary conduct by a well-deserved extension of His Majesty's mercy. Your committee therefore suggest, that no pardon whatever, real or conditional, be granted but through the secretary of state. This may create a delay perhaps of a year, in obtaining the pardon of any convict, but that inconvenience will not be great, for by granting to him a ticket of leave, the convict will in the mean time be entirely relieved from the pressure of his sentence. Upon the subject of tickets of leave, your committee feel that the power of granting them ought to remain in full force with the governor; but it is a power which they would wish to see sparingly and cautiously made use of; and with this view, they recommend that an annual return be made to the

secretary of state's office, of the number of tickets of leave issued in the year, with a statement of the grounds upon which each was granted.

No difficulty appears to exist amongst the major part of the men who do not wish to remain in the colony, of finding means to return to this country. All but the aged and infirm easily find employment on board the ships visiting New South Wales, and are allowed to work their passage home ; but such facility is not afforded to the women : they have no possible method of leaving the colony but by prostituting themselves on board the ships whose masters may choose to receive them. They who are sent to New South Wales, that their former habits may be relinquished, cannot obtain a return to this country, but by relapsing into that mode of life, which with many has been the first cause of all their crimes and misfortunes. To those who shrink from these means, or are unable even thus to obtain a passage for themselves, transportation for seven years is converted into a banishment for life, and the just and humane provisions of the law, by which different periods of transportation are apportioned to different degrees of crime, are rendered entirely null : To see this defect in

the punishment remedied, is the anxious wish of your committee; and they trust that means may be devised to facilitate the return of such women as have passed their time of servitude, and are unwilling to remain in the colony, either by affording them a sufficient sum of money, or by some stipulation in their favour with the masters of vessels touching at the settlement.

It will be seen by the accounts laid before your committee, that the expenses of the colony are considerable. The bills drawn in the year 1810, amounted to 72,600*l.* being a great increase upon any preceding year, and the expenditure of the year 1811 promised to be still greater; in addition to these, a great annual expenditure is incurred in the transmission of stores and merchandize, and in the freight of transports. Your committee trust that when the buildings absolutely necessary for the public service shall be completed, as the commerce of the colony shall prosper, the duties become more productive, and, from agricultural improvement, the supply of stores to its present amount shall be discontinued, that this expense will be materially diminished; and it is their opinion, that it might even now be considerably reduced by the removal of part

of the military force in the colony, which appears to them to be unnecessarily large. The whole population does not amount to 11,000, and of these, 1,100 are soldiers.

Such is the view taken by your committee of the colony of New South Wales ; and it is, in their opinion, in a train entirely to answer the ends proposed by its establishment. It appears latterly to have attracted a greater share of the attention of government than it did for many years after its foundation ; and when the several beneficial orders lately sent out from this country, and the liberal views of the present governor, shall have had time to operate, the best effects are to be expected. The permission of distillation within the colony, and the reform of the courts of justice, are two measures which your committee, above all others, recommend as most necessary to stimulate agricultural industry, and to give the inhabitants that confidence and legal security which can alone render them contented with the government under which they are placed.

July 10, 1812.

CHAPTER XXXI.

New Regulations.—Courts.

THE attention of His Majesty's ministers, was at this time directed to the completion of several important reforms, particularly some which had been pointed out by the Committee; such as that of the *maximum* which had at various times been enforced in the prices of grain, meat and merchandize, the traffic in spirituous liquors by civil and military officers, the commercial regulation by which every vessel was compelled to touch at Port Jackson, previous to the discharging any part of its cargo in Van Dieman's Land, with several others. Great alterations were also adopted with respect to the Courts. On this topic, the plans of government will be found best explained in the following extracts; from Earl Bathurst's dispatch to Governor Macquarie, dated the 23rd of November, 1812.

“ In order to obviate the embarrassment arising from the number of causes, it will be

expedient to divide the labour. It is therefore intended that there should be established two courts in the settlement; one, the supreme court; the other, the governor's court; to be constituted as hereafter will be stated."

"In the governor's court, the judge-advocate shall preside. The court shall be constituted as the civil court of judicature now appears to be; but it is not to take cognizance of any suits, the amount of which shall be above the value of 50*l*. From the decision of this court no appeal is to be allowed; causes of this description will, generally speaking, be more satisfactorily decided by a summary and final proceeding. The judge-advocate will be called upon to establish such regulations respecting its proceedings as may to him appear requisite, and they shall be published as the rules of the court. It is further intended that a court of the same description shall be established at Van Dieman's Land, to which a deputy judge-advocate will be regularly attached: this will relieve those settlements from the embarrassments under which they labour, by not having any court of judicature established within themselves. There must, however, be the same limitations as to the amount of the actions which this court is to try, and all above

that amount must be brought before the supreme court of judicature in Sydney."

"This supreme court is to consist of a chief justice, and two persons to be chosen by the governor, in rotation, from among the magistrates of the territory; solicitors are to be employed on either side, and for that purpose proper encouragement will be given to a sufficient number to go out; but it does not appear that there exists, at present, the same necessity for advocates. Of the solicitors, one will receive a salary of 300*l.* per annum, and fill the situation of king's proctor; while the other may be appointed coroner of the territory, in the manner recommended by Mr. Bent."

"In actions where the amount of the suit exceeds 3000*l.* an appeal may be made to His Majesty in Council; but the appellant, if the debt be due from him, or he has possession of the property claimed, must first pay the amount of his debt into court, or surrender the property in question to trustees to be named by that court."

"Real estates, such as lands, houses, &c. in the settlement, must be rendered liable to all just debts and demands, and to be seized or let by virtue of the process in the supreme court, in the same manner as personal chattels. This

provision, however, should not extend to debts under 50*l.* which are to fall under the jurisdiction of the inferior court."

"In cases where the opinion of the judges shall not concur, the opinion of the majority shall be considered as binding; but if, on any consultation, the chief justice shall be in the minority, if he protests against the decision, upon such protest being duly recorded, the party may, in all such cases, at once appeal to the governor, who shall be assisted by the judge-advocate: from his decision an appeal will be allowed to His Majesty in Council, in all suits which exceed the value of 3000*l.* subject to the aforesaid regulations with regard to appeal. A clerk of the peace to be appointed to act agreeably to Mr. Bent's suggestion, as a public notary and a registrar."

"The supreme court, constituted in all respects as already described, shall take cognizance of all criminal cases; and shall act also as a court of equity."

CHAPTER XXXII.

Natural Productions.—Diary.

A knowledge of the natural productions of New South Wales, was by this time much enlarged; but not in the degree, or with the scientific accuracy, that might be wished. Those of Van Dieman's Land, both animal and vegetable, were found in many respects to resemble those of the main land. They were in others, however, marked by a characteristic difference. This was particularly exemplified in the delightful fragrance of the shrubs and flowers; a quality in which those about Sydney had been observed to be uncommonly deficient. Of the animal creation, the kangaroo was found to be the same in shape, but differing in colour, being grey instead of brown. About Port Dalrymple, an animal was discovered which bore some resemblance to the hyena both in shape and fierceness; with a wide mouth, strong limbs, sharp claws and a striped skin. Agreeably to the general nature of New South Wales quadrupeds, this animal has a false belly. It may be considered as the most

formidable of any which New Holland has been yet found to produce, and is very destructive; though there is no instance of its attacking the human species.—An animal named a *wombat*, about the size of a small turnspit-dog, and with some resemblance to a pig, has been found in abundance in Van Dieman's Land, and also, though less frequently, in other parts of New South Wales. Its flesh has in taste a resemblance to pork.—The iron ore near Hobart Town, is of uncommon richness. A piece of ferruginous stone found by Mr. Bass, and resembling a bunch of grapes in form, had the appearance of having bubbled out of the fissure of a rock.—“But the most prizable
“ objects,” says Mr. Mann, “ which have been
“ discovered in the colony, are the valuable
“ stones, of which the white, yellow, and large
“ brilliant topazes, are considered of far greater
“ worth than those which are produced in any
“ part of the Brazils; since I was informed,
“ when at Rio Janeiro, by a number of gentlemen of the best information, amongst
“ whom were the Marquis de Pombal and the
“ judge Consalvadore, that none which had
“ been found on that coast, could bear a comparison with those of New Holland.”

The animal productions of the principal

settlement are in endless variety. A species of ant-eater is found an addition to the luxuries of the table. Flying mice are seen in great numbers. This little animal seems to partake of the nature of the flying opossum. The koolah or sloth, is likewise an animal of the opossum species, with a false belly. This creature is from a foot and a half to two feet in length, and takes refuge in a tree, where he discovers his haunt by devouring all the leaves before he quits it.—The vegetable discoveries are not less extensive. A black and white mottled fern-tree, growing about Port Jackson, has been found to answer in a very beautiful manner, the purposes of veneering. A tree, the berries and bark of which, are powerfully aromatic, has been discovered to the southward. A sort of fustic has been found about Newcastle. The colony is also found to produce a species of indigo.

The animals that have been introduced from other parts of the world, are thought, by becoming wild, to bid fair to supply in time the whole of the immense island, or perhaps in stricter propriety, the vast continent of New Holland. The wild herds, of which we have so often spoken, are of a less roving or active nature, but the numbers of colts, fillies, and

mares in foal, that have strayed from the settlement, besides goats, and many of the deer, that were introduced by Mr. Harris and others, leave no room to doubt of those animals multiplying to a boundless extent.—The breed of sheep, horses and other cattle, already so much improved by Mr. M'Arthur, was still further meliorated, by the liberality of that benevolent nobleman, the late Duke of Northumberland.

The climate of New South Wales, is found by experience to be in a high degree salubrious.

The following is a diary of the weather at Sydney, for a year.

JANUARY.					
1	Weather	24	showers.	15	close.
2	clear	25		16	Occasional
3	but	26		17	showers.
4	very	27	Farenheit	18	Weather
5	hot.	28	at 76°.	19	less
6	Mornings	29		20	hot.
7	pleasant	30	Showers.	21	Rains
8	till seven	31		22	increase.
9	or eight			23	
10	o'clock.		FEBRUARY.	24	Weather
11	Farenheit's	1	Warm	25	unsettled.
12	thermometer	2	Weather.	26	
13	from 80°	3	A con-	27	
14	to 90°	4	tinuation	28	
15	at noon,	5	of the		
16	and for	6	same.		MARCH.
17	some time	7		1	Weather
18	after.	8		2	continues
19	Weather	9	Farenheit	3	unsettled.
20	less	10	from 75°	4	Rain.
21	clear.	11	to 85°	5	Thermometer
22	Lightning.	12	in the	6	variable.
23	Refreshing	13	shade.	7	Heavy
		14	Nights	8	rains.

F F

9 Nights
10 chilly.
11
12 Rains
13 continue.
14
15 Floods.
16
17 Floods.
18 Thermometer
19 varies
20 during
21 this
22 month
23 from
24 64°
25 to 80°
26 of Faren-
27 heit.
28
29
30 Weather
31 variable.

APRIL.

1 Days
2 warm.
3 Nights
4 cool
5 and
6 pleasant.
7 Weather
8 moderate.
9
10 Showery.
11
12 Very
13 pleasant.
14
15 Continues
16 moderate
17 and
18 pleasant.
19 Thermometer
20 during
21 this
22 month
23 generally
24 stationary,
25 between
26 65° and
27 68°
28 seldom
29 up to
30 70°.

MAY.

1
2
3 Clear
4 weather.
5
6 Weather
7 continues
8 clear.
9 The
10 whole
11 of this
12 month
13 moderate
14 and
15 pleasant.
16
17
18 Weather
19 cool.
20
21
22
23
24 The
25 nights
26 cold.
27
28 Little
29 or no
30 rain.
31

JUNE.

1
2 Weather
3 still
4 pleasant.
5
6
7 Light
8 frosts
9 before
10 sun-rise.
11
12
13 Mornings
14 and
15 evenings
16 cold.
17
18
19
20
21 Shortest day.
22

23
24
25 Cold
26 winds.
27
28
29 Occasional
30 showers.

JULY.

1
2
3
4 Mornings
5 frosty.
6
7
8 Days
9 clear
10 and
11 cold.
12 Little
13 rain
14 during
15 this
16 month.
17 Fogs
18 at the
19 Hawkesbury.
20 Thermometer
21 mornings
22 and
23 evenings
24 at 46°.
25 At noon
26 at 60°
27 and
28 upwards.
29 Drought.
30 Thin
31 ice.

AUGUST.

1
2 Drought.
3
4
5
6 Drought
7 continues.
8
9
10 Weather
11 very
12 cold.
13

14 Drought.
15
16 Great
17 fogs
18 at the
19 Hawkesbury.
20
21 Weather
22 continues
23 cold.
24
25
26 Drought
27 continues.
28
29
30 Fogs at
31 Hawkesbury.

SEPTEMBER.

1
2 Fogs
3 continues.
4
5
6 Weather
7 milder
8 and more
9 pleasant.
10
11
12 Occasional
13 rains.
14
15 Great
16 appearances
17 of Spring.
18
19
20 Weather
21 much
22 more
23 pleasant.
24
25
26 Weather
27 salubrious
28 and
29 delightful.
30

OCTOBER.

1 Weather
2 clear
3 and
4 very
5 delightful.
6
7
8
9 Frequent
10 showers.
11
12 Lightning.
13
14
15 Weather
16 grows
17 warm.
18
19
20 Lightning.
21
22 Copious
23 showers.
24
25
26
27 Thermometer
28 at 80°
29 at noon.
30
31

NOVEMBER.

1
2 Weather
3 very
4 warm.
5 Little
6 or no
7 rain.
8
9 Weather
10 sultry.
11 Blights,
12 owing
13 to the
14 prevalence
15 of hot
16 winds.
17

18 Great heat.
19
20
21 Harvest begins.
22 Thermometer
23 at noon
24 at 90°
25 and
26 upwards.
27
28
29 Rain
30 wanted.

DECEMBER.

1
2 Hot
3 winds.
4
5 Considerable
6 drought.
7
8 Thermometer
9 at noon
10 90° and
11 upwards.
12
13
14 Heat
15 continues.
16
17
18 Refreshing
19 showers.
20
21 Longest Day.
22
23
24 Weather
25 fine
26 but
27 very
28 warm.
29
30 Showers.
31

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Passage of the Mountains.

THE passage of the mountains to the west of the settlement, so long an object of the highest interest and curiosity, was effected towards the beginning of 1814, by Mr. George William Evans, and the nature of the country beyond, ascertained. By the beginning of 1815, a road was made over them, and in the month of April following, they were crossed by the governor in person; the particulars of whose narrative, as published by him on the occasion for the information of the colony, we here subjoin.

“ *Government House, Sydney,*
June 10, 1815.

“ The governor desires to communicate, for the information of the public, the result of his late tour over the Western or Blue Mountains, undertaken for the purpose of being enabled personally to appreciate the importance of the tract of country lying westward of them; which had been explored in the latter end of

the year 1813 and beginning of 1814 by Mr. George William Evans, deputy surveyor of lands.

“ To those who know how very limited a tract of country has been hitherto occupied by the colonists of New South Wales, extending along the eastern coast to the north and south of Port Jackson only eighty miles, and westward about forty miles to the foot of that chain of mountains in the interior which forms its western boundary, it must be a subject of astonishment and regret, that amongst so large a population no one appeared within the first twenty-five years of the establishment of this settlement possessed of sufficient energy of mind to induce him fully to explore a passage over these mountains:—but, when it is considered that for the greater part of that time even this circumscribed portion of country afforded sufficient produce for the wants of the people, whilst on the other hand the whole surface of the country beyond those limits was a thick and in many places nearly an impenetrable forest, the surprise at the want of effort to surmount such difficulties must abate very considerably.

“ The records of the colony only afford two instances of any bold attempt having been made

to discover the country to the westward of the Blue Mountains.—The first was by Mr. Bass, and the other by Mr. Caley, and both ended in disappointment—a circumstance which will not be much wondered at by those who have lately crossed those mountains.

“To Gregory, Blaxland and William Wentworth, Esquires, and Lieutenant Lawson, of the Royal Veteran Company, the merit is due of having, with extraordinary patience and much fatigue, effected the first passage over the most rugged and difficult part of the Blue Mountains.

“The governor, being strongly impressed with the importance of the object, had, early after his arrival in this colony, formed the resolution of encouraging the attempt to find a passage to the western country, and willingly availed himself of the facilities which the discoveries of these three gentlemen afforded him. Accordingly, on the 20th of November 1813, he entrusted the accomplishment of this object to Mr. George William Evans, deputy surveyor of lands, the result of whose journey was laid before the public.

“The favourable account given by Mr. Evans of the country he had explored, induced the governor to cause a road to be constructed

for the passage and conveyance of cattle and provisions to the interior ; and men of good character, from amongst a number of convicts who had volunteered their services, were selected to perform this arduous work, on condition of being fed and clothed during the continuance of their labour, and being granted emancipations as their final reward on the completion of the work.

“ The direction and superintendence of this great work was entrusted to William Cox, Esq. the chief magistrate at Windsor ; and to the astonishment of every one who knows what was to be encountered, and sees what has been done, he effected its completion in six months from the time of its commencement, happily without the loss of a man, or any serious accident. The governor is at a loss to appreciate fully the services rendered by Mr. Cox to this colony, in the execution of this arduous work, which promises to be of the greatest public utility, by opening a new source of wealth to the industrious and enterprising. When it is considered that Mr. Cox voluntarily relinquished the comforts of his own house, and the society of his numerous family, and exposed himself to much personal fatigue, with only such temporary covering as a bark hut could

afford from the inclemency of the season, it is difficult to express the sentiments of approbation to which such privations and services are entitled.

“ Mr. Cox having reported the road as completed on the 21st of January last, the governor, accompanied by Mrs. Macquarie and that gentleman, commenced his tour on the 25th of April, over the Blue Mountains, and was joined by Sir John Jamieson at the Nepean, who accompanied him during the entire tour.—The following gentlemen composed the governor’s suite: Mr. Campbell, secretary; Capt. Antill, major of brigade; Lieut. Watts, aid-de-camp; Mr. Redfern, assistant-surgeon; Mr. Oxley, surveyor-general; Mr. Meehan, deputy surveyor-general; Mr. Lewin, painter and naturalist; and Mr. G. W. Evans, deputy surveyor of lands, who had been sent forward for the purpose of making further discoveries, and rejoined the party on the day of arrival at Bathurst Plains.

“ The commencement of the ascent from Emu Plains to the first depôt, and thence to a resting place, now called Spring Wood, distant twelve miles from Emu Ford, was through a very handsome open forest of lofty trees, and much more practicable and easy than was

expected. The facility of the ascent for this distance excited surprise, and is certainly not well calculated to give the traveller a just idea of the difficulties he has afterwards to encounter.

—At a further distance of four miles a sudden change is perceived in the appearance of the timber and the quality of the soil—the former becoming stunted, and the latter barren and rocky. At this place the fatigues of the journey may be said to commence. Here the country became altogether mountainous, and extremely rugged.—Near to the eighteenth mile mark (it is to be observed that the measure commences from Emu Ford) a pile of stones attracted attention : it is close to the line of road, on the top of a rugged and abrupt ascent, and is supposed to have been placed there by Mr. Caley, as the extreme limit of his tour :—hence the governor gave that part of the mountain the name of Caley's Repulse. To have penetrated even so far, was at that time an effort of no small difficulty.—From hence, forward to the twenty-sixth mile, is a succession of steep and rugged hills, some of which are almost so abrupt as to deny a passage altogether ; but at this place a considerably extensive plain is arrived at, which constitutes the summit of the Western Mountains ; and from thence a most

extensive and beautiful prospect presents itself on all sides to the eye. The town of Windsor, the river Hawkesbury, Prospect Hill, and other objects within that part of the colony now inhabited, of equal interest, are distinctly seen from hence.—The majestic grandeur of the situation, combined with the various objects to be seen from this place, induced the governor to give it the appellation of the King's Table Land.—On the S.W. side of the King's Table Land the mountain terminates in abrupt precipices of immense depth, at the bottom of which is seen a glen, as romantically beautiful as can be imagined, bounded on the further side by mountains of great magnitude, terminating equally abruptly as the others; and the whole thickly covered with timber. The length of this picturesque and remarkable tract of country is about twenty-four miles, to which the governor gave the name of The Prince Regent's Glen.—Proceeding hence to the thirty-third mile on the top of a hill, an opening presents itself on the S.W. side of the Prince Regent's Glen, from whence a view is obtained particularly beautiful and grand—mountains rising beyond mountains, with stupendous masses of rock in the fore-ground, here strike the eye with admiration and astonishment. The cir-

cular form in which the whole is so wonderfully disposed, induced the governor to give the name of Pitt's Amphitheatre (in honour of the late right honourable William Pitt) to this offset or branch from the Prince Regent's Glen. The road continues from hence, for the space of seventeen miles, on the ridge of the mountain which forms one side of the Prince Regent's Glen, and there it suddenly terminates in nearly a perpendicular precipice of 676 feet high, as ascertained by measurement. The road constructed by Mr. Cox down this rugged and tremendous descent, through all its windings, is no less than three-fourths of a mile in length, and has been executed with such skill and stability as reflects much credit on him. The labour here undergone, and the difficulties surmounted, can only be appreciated by those who view this scene. In order to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Cox's services, the governor deemed it a tribute justly due to him, to give his name to this grand and extraordinary pass; and he accordingly called it Cox's Pass. Having descended into the valley at the bottom of this pass, the retrospective view of the overhanging mountains is magnificently grand. Although the present pass is the only practicable point yet discovered for descending by, yet the moun-

tain is much higher than those on either side of it, from whence it is distinguished at a considerable distance, when approaching it from the interior, and in this point of view it has the appearance of a very high distinct hill, although it is in fact only the abrupt termination of a ridge. The governor gave the name of Mount York to this termination of the ridge, in honour of His Royal Highness the Duke of York.

“ On descending Cox’s Pass, the governor was much gratified by the appearance of good pasture land and soil fit for cultivation, which was the first he had met with since the commencement of his tour. The valley at the base of Mount York he called The Vale of Clwyd, in consequence of the strong resemblance it bore to the vale of that name in North Wales. The grass in this vale is of a good quality and very abundant, and a rivulet of fine water runs along it from the eastward, which unites itself at the western extremity of the vale with another rivulet containing still more water.— The junction of these two streams forms a very handsome river, now called by the governor Cox’s River; which takes its course, as has been since ascertained, through the Prince Regent’s Glen, and empties itself into the river Nepean; and it is conjectured, from the nature

of the country through which it passes, that it must be one of the principal causes of the floods which have been occasionally felt on the low banks of the river Hawkesbury, into which the Nepean discharges itself. The Vale of Clwyd, from the base of Mount York, extends six miles in a westerly direction, and has its termination at Cox's River. Westward of this river the country again becomes hilly, but is generally open forest land, and very good pasturage.

“ Three miles to the westward of the Vale of Clwyd, Messrs. Blaxland, Wentworth, and Lawson, had formerly terminated their excursion; and when the various difficulties are considered which they had to contend with, especially until they had effected the descent from Mount York, to which place they were obliged to pass through a thick brush-wood, where they were under the necessity of cutting a passage for their baggage horses, the severity of which labour had seriously affected their healths, their patient endurance of such fatigue cannot fail to excite much surprise and admiration.—In commemoration of their merits, three beautiful high hills joining each other at the end of their tour at this place, have received their names in the following order, *viz*—Mount

Blaxland, Wentworth's Sugar Loaf, and Lawson's Sugar Loaf. A range of very lofty hills and narrow valleys alternately form the tract of country from Cox's River, for a distance of sixteen miles, until the Fish River is arrived at; and the stage between these rivers is consequently very severe and oppressive on the cattle. To this range the governor gave the name of Clarence Hilly Range.

“ Proceeding from the Fish River, and at a short distance from it, a very singular and beautiful mountain attracts the attention, its summit being crowned with a large and very extraordinary-looking rock, nearly circular in form, which gives to the whole very much the appearance of a hill fort, such as are frequent in India.—To this lofty hill Mr. Evans, who was the first European discoverer, gave the name of Mount Eyans. Passing on from hence the country continues hilly, but affords good pasturage, gradually improving to Sidmouth Valley, which is distant from the pass of the Fish River eight miles. The land here is level, and the first met with unencumbered with timber: it is not of very considerable extent, but abounds with a great variety of herbs and plants, such as would probably highly interest and gratify the scientific bota-

nist.—This beautiful little valley runs north-west and south-east, between hills of easy ascent, thinly covered with timber.—Leaving Sidmouth Valley, the country becomes again hilly, and in other respects resembles very much the country to the eastward of the valley for some miles. Having reached Campbell River, distant thirteen miles from Sidmouth Valley, the governor was highly gratified by the appearance of the country, which there began to exhibit an open and extensive view of gently rising grounds and fertile plains.—Judging from the height of the banks, and its general width, the Campbell River must be in some parts of very considerable magnitude; but the extraordinary drought which has apparently prevailed on the western side of the mountains, equally as throughout this colony for the last three years, has reduced this river so much that it may be more properly called a chain of pools than a running stream at the present time. In the reaches or pools of the Campbell River, the very curious animal called the paradox, or water-mole, is seen in great numbers. The soil on both banks is uncommonly rich, and the grass is consequently luxuriant.—Two miles to the southward of the line of road which crosses the Campbell River,

there is a very fine rich tract of low lands, which has been named Mitchell Plains. Flax was found here growing in considerable quantities.—The Fish River, which forms a junction with the Campbell River a few miles to the northward of the road and bridge over the latter, has also two very fertile plains on its banks, the one called O'Connell Plains, and the other Macquarie Plains, both of considerable extent, and very capable of yielding all the necessaries of life.

“ At the distance of seven miles from the bridge over the Campbell River, Bathurst Plains open to the view, presenting a rich tract of champaign country of eleven miles in length, bounded on both sides by gently rising and very beautiful hills, thinly wooded. The Macquarie River, which is constituted by the junction of the Fish and Campbell Rivers, takes a winding course through the plains, which can be easily traced from the high lands adjoining, by the particular verdure of the trees on its banks, which are likewise the only trees throughout the extent of the plains.—The level and clean surface of these plains gives them at first view very much the appearance of lands in a state of cultivation.

“ It is impossible to behold this grand scene

without a feeling of admiration and surprise, whilst the silence and solitude which reign in a space of such extent and beauty as seems designed by Nature for the occupancy and comfort of man, create a degree of melancholy in the mind which may be more easily imagined than described.

“ The governor and suite arrived at these plains on Thursday the 4th of May, and encamped on the southern or left bank of the Macquarie River—the situation being selected in consequence of its commanding a beautiful and extensive prospect for many miles in every direction around it.— At this place the governor remained for a week, which time he occupied in making excursions in different directions through the adjoining country, on both sides of the river.

“ On Sunday, the 7th of May, the governor fixed on a site suitable for the erection of a town at some future period, to which he gave the name of Bathurst, in honour of the present secretary of state for the colonies.—The situation of Bathurst is elevated sufficiently beyond the reach of any floods which may occur, and is at the same time so near to the river on its south bank as to derive all the advantages of its clear and beautiful stream. The mechanics

and settlers of whatever description who may be hereafter permitted to form permanent residences to themselves at this place, will have the highly important advantages of a rich and fertile soil, with a beautiful river flowing through it, for all the uses of man. The governor must however add, that the hopes which were at first so sanguinely entertained, of this river becoming navigable to the Western Sea, have ended in disappointment.

“ During the week that the governor remained at Bathurst, he made daily excursions in various directions: one of these extended twenty-two miles in a south-west direction, and on that occasion, as well as on all others, he found the country composed chiefly of valleys and plains, separated occasionally by ranges of low hills;—the soil throughout being generally fertile, and well circumstanced for the purpose of agriculture or grazing.

“ The governor here feels much pleasure in being enabled to communicate to the public, that the favourable reports which he had received of the country to the west of the Blue Mountains have not been by any means exaggerated,—the difficulties which present themselves in the journey from hence are certainly great and inevitable; but those persons who

may be inclined to become permanent settlers there, will probably content themselves with visiting this part of the colony but rarely, and of course will have them seldom to encounter. —Plenty of water and a sufficiency of grass are to be found in the mountains for the support of such cattle as may be sent over them; and the tracts of fertile soil and rich pasturage which the new country affords, are fully extensive enough for any increase of population and stock which can possibly take place for many years.

“ Within a distance of ten miles from the site of Bathurst, there is not less than fifty thousand acres of land clear of timber, and fully one half of that may be considered excellent soil, well calculated for cultivation. It is a matter of regret, that in proportion as the soil improves the timber degenerates; and it is to be remarked, that every where to the westward of the mountains it is much inferior both in size and quality to that within the present colony: there is, however, a sufficiency of timber of tolerable quality within the district around Bathurst, for the purposes of house-building and husbandry.

“ The governor has here to lament, that neither coals nor lime-stone have yet been dis-

covered in the western country ; articles in themselves of so much importance, that the want of them must be severely felt whenever that country shall be settled."

" Having enumerated the principal and most important features of this new country, the governor has now to notice some of its live productions. All around Bathurst abounds in a variety of game ; and the two principal rivers contain a great quantity of fish, but all of one denomination, resembling the perch in appearance, and of a delicate and fine flavour, not unlike that of a rock cod : this fish grows to a large size, and is very voracious. Several of them were caught during the governor's stay at Bathurst, and at the halting-place on the Fish River. One of those caught weighed 17lbs. and the people stationed at Bathurst reported that they had caught some weighing 25lbs."

" The field game are the kangaroos, emus, black swans, wild geese, wild turkeys, bustards, ducks of various kinds, quail, bronze, and other pigeons, &c. &c. The water-mole, or paradox, also abounds in all the rivers and ponds."

" The site designed for the town of Bathurst, by observation taken at the flag-staff, which was erected on the day of Bathurst receiving

that name, is situated in latitude $32^{\circ} 24' 30''$ south, and in longitude $149^{\circ} 37' 45''$ east of Greenwich, being also $27\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Government House in Sydney, and $94\frac{1}{2}$ west of it, bearing west $20^{\circ} 30'$ north, 83 geographic miles, or $95\frac{1}{2}$ statute miles ; the measured *road* distance from Sydney to Bathurst being 140 English miles.

“ The road constructed by Mr. Cox and the party under him commences at Emu Ford, on the left bank of the river Nepean, and is thence carried $101\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the flag-staff at Bathurst: this road has been carefully measured, and each mile regularly marked on the trees growing on the left side of the road proceeding towards Bathurst.

“ The governor in his tour made the following stages, in which he was principally regulated by the consideration of having good pasturage for the cattle, and plenty of water:

	MILES.
1st stage,—From Emu Ford to Spring	
Wood - - - - -	12
2nd ditto—Jamieson's Valley - - - -	16
3rd ditto—Blackheath - - - - -	13
4th ditto—Cox's River - - - - -	15
5th ditto—Fish River - - - - -	16

6th ditto—Sidmouth Valley	- - - -	8
7th ditto—Campbell River	- - - -	11
8th ditto—Bathurst	- - - -	10½
		<hr/>
Total	- - - -	101½

“ At all of which places the traveller may assure himself of good grass, and water in abundance.

“ On Thursday the 11th of May the governor and suite set out from Bathurst on their return, and arrived at Sydney on Friday the 19th ultimo.

“ The governor deems it expedient here to notify to the public, that he does not mean to make any grants of land to the westward of the Blue Mountains until he shall receive the commands of His Majesty’s ministers on that subject, and in reply to the report he is now about to make them upon it.

“ In the mean time, such gentlemen or other respectable free persons as may wish to visit this new country, will be permitted to do so on making a written application to the governor to that effect ; who will order them to be furnished with written passes. It is at the same time strictly ordered and directed, that no person, whether civil or military, shall attempt to

travel over the Blue Mountains without having previously applied for and obtained permission, in the above prescribed form. The military guard stationed at the first *depôt* on the mountains will receive full instructions to prevent the progress of any persons who shall not have obtained regular passes. The necessity for the establishing and strictly enforcing this regulation is too obvious to every one who will reflect on it, to require any explanation here.

“ The governor cannot conclude this account of his tour, without offering his best acknowledgements to William Cox, Esq. for the important service he has rendered to the colony in so short a period of time, by opening a passage to the new-discovered country, and at the same time assuring him, that he shall have great pleasure in recommending his meritorious services on this occasion to the favourable consideration of His Majesty’s ministers.

“ By command of his Excellency the Governor,
“ JOHN THOMAS CAMPBELL, Secretary.”

To the above account, the governor afterwards added the following particulars, which he had omitted.

“ When the governor arrived at Bathurst,

on the 4th of May, he found there three native men and six children standing with the working party: they appeared much alarmed, particularly at the horses—but this soon ceased, and they became quite familiar, eating whatever food was offered them, and appearing very proud of some little articles of dress which were given them. Frequently during the governor's stay at Bathurst, small parties of men and boys came in, and they always got meat and some articles of slop clothing, and tomahawks; which latter seemed to be highly prized by them. These natives are in appearance very like those of Sydney, though rather better looking and stronger made; some of them were blind of one eye, though not always on the same side. Their language being altogether dissimilar to that of the natives of this part of the country, it was impossible to learn whether their being thus blinded was the result of any established custom amongst them, or merely accidental; the probability is, however, that it is intentional whatever might be the cause. A native who attended the governor from this side of the mountains was much alarmed at the appearance of the stranger natives; but afterwards, perceiving that they did not attempt to injure him, he endeavoured

to hold a conversation with them ; their languages, however, appeared totally different, neither party seeming to understand a single word spoken by the other.

“ Those men were covered by skins of different animals, neatly sewed together, and wore the fur side inwards ; on the outer, or skin side, they had curious devices wrought. The governor observed on one of these dresses or cloaks, as regularly formed a St. George's cross as could be made, though he could not connect that circumstance with any other which might lead to the assigning it to a religious ceremony. The manner of forming these figures must be by the throwing up a slight part of the skin with a sharp instrument, round the outlines of the figure. They appeared, judging from the neatness of the sewing and work on these cloaks, to have made some little advance to civilization and comfort beyond what the natives of this part of the country have done. In other respects they seem to be perfectly harmless and inoffensive, and by no means warlike or savage, few of them having any weapons whatever with them but merely a stone axe, which they use for cutting steps for themselves to climb up trees by, in pursuit of the little animals which they live upon.

“ These natives never brought any of their females with them on their visits to Bathurst, and the governor had only accidentally, in the course of one of his excursions from thence, an opportunity of seeing one of them. She was blind of the left eye, wanted all her teeth, and was altogether one of the most wretched-looking old creatures that could be possibly imagined, composed of merely skin and bone.

“ The governor, on his return over the King’s Table Land, had much gratification in beholding a cataract of immense height, which falls over a precipice little short of 1000 feet down into the Prince Regent’s Glen, forming one of the most stupendous and grand sights that perhaps the world can afford. This cataract having been discovered by four gentlemen of the governor’s party, his Excellency has been pleased to give it the name of one of them, by calling it “ The Campbell Cataract.”

“ By command of his Excellency the Governor,
“ J. T. CAMPBELL, Secretary.”

We here subjoin a narrative, published by the governor, of the further progress of Mr. Evans.

*“ Government House, Sydney,
July 8, 1815.*

“ An anxious desire to render the discoveries in the lately explored country to the westward of the Blue Mountains as complete and important to the mother country and the present colony as the means within his power would enable him, having induced his Excellency the governor, while at Bathurst, to instruct Mr. Evans to proceed from thence and pursue his discoveries as much farther westward as his means of carrying provisions, the nature of the country through which he should pass, and the unforeseen occurrences to which, as a traveller in an unexplored country he might be exposed, would permit; and Mr. Evans having returned with the persons who attended him, all safe, his Excellency desires to lay the following brief account, extracted from his journal and report of this tour, before the public.

“ On the 13th of May Mr. Evans commenced his tour of discovery, and on the 2nd of June, finding his provisions would not enable him to proceed farther, he began to retrace his course back to Bathurst, where he arrived on the 12th ultimo, having been absent thirty-one days. In the course of this tour Mr. Evans has

been so fortunate as to travel over a vast number of rich and fertile vallies, with succession of hills well covered with good and useful timber, chiefly the stringy bark and the pine, and the whole country abounding with ponds and gullies of fine water; he also fell in with a large river, which he conceives would become navigable for boats at the distance of a few days' travelling along its banks. From its course he conjectures that it must join its waters with those of the Macquarie River; and little doubt can be entertained, that their joint streams must form a navigable river of very considerable size. At a distance of about sixty miles from Bathurst, Mr. Evans discovered a number of hills, the points of which ended in perpendicular heads, from 30 to 40 feet high, of pure lime-stone of a misty grey colour. At this place, and also throughout the general course of the journey, kangaroos, emus, ducks, &c. were seen in great numbers, and the new river, to which Mr. Evans gave the name of the *Lachlan*, abounds with fish; although, from the coolness of the season, he was not able to catch any of them. In the course of this tour Mr. Evans also discovered a very unusual and extraordinary production, the proper or scientific name of which cannot at present be as-

signed to it. It possesses much of the sweetness and flavour of manna, but is totally different in its appearance, being very white, and having a roundish irregular surface, not unlike the rough outside of confectioners' comfits, and of the size of the largest hail-stones. Mr. Evans does not consider it to be the production of any insect, tree, or vegetable of the country; and from hence the most probable conjecture appears to be, that it is a production of the same nature with that which is found in Arabia, and there called 'wild honey,' and supposed to be a dew. Where this substance was found most plentiful, Mr. Evans saw the kangaroo in immense flocks, and wild fowl equally abundant.

“ The natives appeared more numerous than at Bathurst; but so very wild, and apparently so much alarmed at the sight of white men, that he could not induce them to come near, or to hold any intercourse whatever with him.

“ At the termination of the tour Mr. Evans saw a good level country, of a most interesting appearance, and a very rich soil; and he conceives that there is no barrier to prevent the travelling farther westward to almost any extent that could be desired. He states that the distance travelled by him on this occa-

sion was 142 measured miles out; which, with digressions to the southward made the total distance 155 miles from Bathurst;—he adds at the same time, that having taken a more direct line back to Bathurst, than that by which he left it, he made the distance then only 115 miles; and he observes that a good road may be made all that length without any considerable difficulty, there not being more than three hills which may not be avoided.

“From the entire tenor of Mr. Evans’s narrative of this tour, it appears that the country over which he passed has even exceeded the country leading to and surrounding Bathurst, in richness, fertility, and all the other valuable objects for the sustenance of a numerous population.”

It appears by the latest accounts, from New South Wales, that the colony was rising rapidly into a more prosperous state, but that much distress and loss had been recently suffered by a drought of uncommon duration.

FINIS.

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